PES-291 SEPTEMBER 1976

POULTRY AND EGG Situation

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Table 1—Poultry and Egg Situation at a Glance

Item	Unit	1975				1976			
		Apr.	May	June	July	Apr.	May	June	July
		Eggs							
Farm production	Mil. doz.	441.8	452.1	435.8	448.9	444.4	454.3	438.7	449.4
Average number of layers on farms	Mil.	276	272	271	270	273	270	269	268
Rate of lay per layer	No.	19.2	19.9	19.3	20.0	19.6	20.2	19.6	20.1
Price received by farmers	Ct. per doz.	47.4	47.1	45.6	46.5	53.4	55.5	53.8	55.5
14 Metro areas price									
Grade A large	Ct. per doz.	55.8	55.4	54.9	56.8	62.0	63.3	62.3	67.4
Retail price (BLS)									
Grade A large	Ct. per doz.	77.2	70.6	66.9	70.6	77.6	75.2	74.4	80.0
Price paid for laying feed	Dol. per ton	146	145	144	145	144	146	156	162
Egg-feed price ratio	Pounds	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.4	7.4	7.6	6.9	6.9
Stocks, first of month:									
Shell	Thous. cases	32	26	68	82	26	26	22	25
Frozen	Mil. lb.	46.7	42.8	44.7	47.8	29.3	29.4	29.1	30.3
Replacement chicks hatched	Mil.	47.4	48.0	40.9	38.1	50.8	47.6	41.9	38.0
		Poultry							
Federally inspected slaughter, cert.									
Broilers	Mil. lb.	688.3	690.1	683.1	714.2	742.5	745.4	825.9	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	68.7	81.9	138.4	193.2	79.9	106.5	182.2	
Price at farm, live weight									
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	23.2	24.6	27.6	29.7	23.7	24.7	24.3	25.4
Chicken, excluding broilers	Ct. per lb.	8.5	9.6	9.2	9.2	11.2	12.2	([1])	([1])
Turkeys	Ct. per lb.	31.6	32.0	31.4	34.4	31.6	32.0	31.4	31.2
9-city wholesale broiler price	Ct. per lb.	40.1	42.9	48.0	51.2	41.0	42.1	42.1	43.2
Retail price (BLS)									
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	57.6	57.9	61.5	68.3	60.7	59.4	62.0	62.6
Turkeys	Ct. per lb.	69.0	69.1	70.9	71.4	74.4	74.1	74.7	73.9
Broiler-feed price	Dol. per ton	164	161	162	161	159	161	172	181
Broiler-feed price ratio	Pounds	2.8	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.8
Turkey-feed price	Dol. per lb.	165	164	165	163	162	165	178	187
Turkey-feed price ratio	Pounds	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.5	3.3
Stocks, first of month:									
Broilers, fryers, roasters	Mil. lb.	28.0	27.8	24.1	22.6	18.9	19.0	17.4	20.0
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	207.3	180.2	162.7	193.2	140.0	114.5	120.5	177.8
Total poultry	Mil. lb.	366.8	340.3	316.4	345.1	250.3	235.8	234.8	305.5
Average weekly placement of broiler chicks in 21 States	Mil.	60.7	60.2	60.3	58.3	68.3	67.8	68.3	64.8

[1] Discontinued June 1976.

"Marketing Facts" for eggs, broilers, and turkeys, formerly prepared and published by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service have been discontinued. These reports were merged into the *Poultry and Egg Situation* and most of the information formerly covered in "Marketing Facts" will be included in this publication on a regularly scheduled basis.

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SUMMARY

Look for continued strong egg markets, steady to slightly stronger turkey prices but seasonally declining broiler prices this fall. Egg production will average only slightly above year-earlier levels, while broiler and turkey output will continue substantially larger.

Egg production has been above a year earlier since January. Output during January-July totaled about 1 percent more than last year. Layer numbers were down, but the decline was more than offset by a rise in the rate of lay.

Layer numbers likely will gain relative to a year earlier in coing months. Along with a continuation in the higher rate of lay, this will result in egg production around 1 percent above 1975 this fall. Larger output will likely continue into 1977.

The cost of producing eggs rose in late spring—a result of rising feed prices—and currently is running above year-ago levels. However, egg prices have advanced faster than production costs and are expected to remain above the cost of production and marketing during the rest of 1976.

Egg prices in recent months have been stronger than earlier expected, and well above 1975 despite larger production. In late August wholesale prices for Grade A large in New York averaged 67 cents a dozen, 6 cents above last year. Although seasonal rises this fall likely will be less than usual, prices should remain strong and average in the mid- to high 60's.

Broiler meat production continues at record levels. First half 1976 output was up 14 percent from a year earlier and nearly 9 percent above the previous record first-half output in 1974. July-September output likely will also be up around 14 percent from a year ago. Weekly chick placements and egg sets for early fourth quarter marketings are still running 10-12 percent above the comparable weeks of 1975. However, if profit margins deteriorate as expected during the fourth quarter, the production expansion likely begin to slow. But broiler meat output is expected to continue at record levels in the closing months this year and average 8 to 10 percent above a year earlier.

Broiler prices have remained relatively strong in 1976. Wholesale broiler prices in the 9 cities during July and August averaged 42 cents a pound, up slightly from April-June but 8 cents below the high levels of 1975. Prices are expected to average in the low 40-cent range for the rest of the summer but

The next issue of the *Poultry and Egg Situation* will be published in early December

may decline to the high 30's this fall because large broiler output will be coupled with increasing pork production and larger turkey supplies.

Prospects for broiler producers for early 1977 now appear less favorable than a year earlier. Production costs will be heavily dependent on developments in the 1976 grain and soybean crops. Some easing in corn prices may about offset increased soybean meal prices. On the demand side, general economic conditions will be improved while beef supplies may be moderately lower and prices higher. However, sharply larger output and lower prices are expected for pork. With prospects for large red meat supplies and for broiler output in January-March 1977 to be some 6 percent above a year earlier, broiler prices may average in the 38- to 40-cents-a-pound range. This compares with the 42 cents in the first quarter of 1976.

Turkey output is also running at record levels in 1976. Through June output was 26 percent above the same months of 1975. Output during July-September will rise seasonally and average 12-14 percent above a year earlier. Poult production for October-December marketings has dropped, and output during this period may only be 5-6 percent above 1975.

The sharply higher production is reflected in rising cold storage stocks. Cold storage stocks on August 1 totaled 252 million pounds, up 3 million from August 1, 1975. On January 1 this year, stocks were 80 million pounds below the previous January 1.

Turkey prices have been relatively weak this summer. New York wholesale prices for 8-16 pound young hen turkeys in late August averaged about 47 cents a pound, 11 cents below a year ago. Prices likely will show limited seasonal increases this summer and fall, averaging near 50 cents a pound, down more than a nickel from 1975.

Prospects for first half 1977 are for turkey producers to raise fewer turkeys than a year earlier because of expected poor profitability during the second half of 1976. January-June 1977 output may total around 15 percent below the same months of 1976. However, this will likely be partially offset by larger cold storage stocks than this year at the beginning of 1977.

The cost of producing turkeys may be near a year earlier if the corn and soybean crops turn out as expected. But returns to producers likely will lag as turkey meat faces stronger competition from pork and broilers. If producers cut back output as expected, wholesale prices for young hen turkeys at New York may average 47 to 50 cents a pound in January-June 1977, compared with 49 cents this year.

Egg, Poultry, and Livestock Production and changes from a year earlier

	1975				1976				1977
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III[1]	IV[1]	I[1]
Eggs (Mil. dozens)	1,340	1,330	1,337	1,356	1,356	1,337	(1,350)	(1,375)	(1,370)
Percent change	-4	-5	-1	0	+1	+0.5	+1	+1.5	+1
Broiler[2] (Mil. lbs.)	1,833	2,061	2,080	1,992	2,116	2,314	(2,370)	(2,190)	(2,240)
Percent change	-6	-2	+1	+11	+15	+12	+14	+10	+6
Turkeys[2] (Mil. lbs.)	166	289	625	635	207	369	(700)	(670)	(175)
Percent change	-23	-18	-7	+7	+24	+28	+12	+6	-15
Beef[3] (Mil. lbs.)	5,842	5,593	5,942	6,296	6,491	6,143	(6,400)	(6,200)	(6,000)
Percent change	+8	-1	+3	+5	+11	+10	+8	-2	-8
Pork[3] (Mil. lbs.)	3,044	2,923	2,512	2,835	2,895	2,782	(2,900)	(3,300)	(3,400)
Percent change	-10	-17	-23	-17	-5	-5	+15	+16	+17

Eggs, Poultry, and Livestock Prices

	1975				1976				1977
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III[1]	IV[1]	I[1]
Eggs, New York[4] (Cents/dozen)	59.0	50.0	57.5	64.7	61.9	57.6	(64-66)	(65-67)	(60-62)
Broiler, 9-City[5] (Cents/lb.)	41.2	43.7	50.3	45.1	42.2	41.7	(42-44)	(37-39)	(38-40)
Turkeys, New York[6] (Cents/lb.)	48.6	51.1	57.1	56.0	49.5	48.2	(47-49)	(48-50)	(46-48)
Choice Steers, Omaha (Dollars/100 lbs.)	35.7	48.0	48.6	46.0	38.7	41.4	(38-40)	(43-45)	(44-46)
Barrows and Gilts, 7 Markets (Dol./100 lbs.)	39.4	46.1	58.8	52.2	48.0	49.2	(44-46)	(40-42)	(37-39)

[1] Forecast. [2] Federally inspected slaughter. [3] Commercial production. [4] Wholesale, grade A large white. [5] Wholesale weighted average. [6] Wholesale, 8-16 pound young hens.

POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

FACTORS AFFECTING POULTRY INDUSTRY

Consumer Incomes Continue to Gain

The second quarter real GNP (measured in 1972 dollars) increased 4.4 percent at a seasonally adjusted annual rate compared with 9.2 percent in the first quarter.

The major impetus to the first quarter performance was inventory accumulation, which accounted for nearly two-thirds of the increase, and consumption expenditures which rose at a nearly 9-percent annual rate. In the second quarter, the rate of inventory accumulation slowed slightly with real consumption expenditures increasing at only a 4 percent annual rate. Although slowing, the current economic upturn which started a year ago suggests that the economy is in a well-balanced recovery, growing neither too strongly nor too weakly. Real GNP is increasing well within the range of previous recovery stages from recessions.

Prospects are for the real output of goods and services to rise around 6-7 percent in 1976 and 5-6 percent in 1977. The outlook is for the unemployment rate to decline to around 7 percent by the end of 1976 and approach 6 percent by the end of 1977. Prices as measured by the GNP deflator will likely rise in the 5-6 percent range in the second half of 1976 and for the year average around 5-6 percent. The rate of increase in 1977 may approach 6-7 percent. And real per capita disposable income will likely increase around 3 percent in both 1976 and 1977.

The primary impetus to growth in late 1976 and 1977 will come from the business sector. Real expenditures on plant and equipment are likely to rise 3-4 percent in 1976 and rebound strongly 15 percent in 1977.

Higher Soybean Meal Prices Increase Production Costs

Rising corn and soybean prices in late spring resulted in higher production costs for egg, broilers, and turkeys. Prices have since eased from the highs reached in June, with corn prices in mid-August below a year earlier but soybean meal prices sharply above last August.

Estimated costs and returns data indicate that second quarter costs increased from the first quarter about a half cent a pound for broilers and turkeys and a cent a dozen for eggs (tables 15, 16, and 17). Production costs for each were slightly below a year earlier. In estimating costs of production, feed prices are lagged 1 month for eggs, 2 months for broilers, and 3 months for turkeys.

Corn and soybean meal prices strengthened last spring following reports of drought in Western Europe and continued large purchases by USSR. Prices then eased in late July and early August. Feed grain prices will continue very sensitive to changes in crop prospects both in the United States and in other countries because of the tight supply situation for corn until the harvest begins. The August 1 estimate of a 6,187-million-bushel corn crop was down 366 million from the July 1 estimate but still 7 percent above the record harvest last year.

Domestic use of feed grains in the 1976/77 marketing year, beginning October 1, is expected to increase moderately as livestock feeding continues to expand and domestic use for food, seed, and industry rises. Exports may decline from the record 55 million short tons exported for 1975/76 because of generally better world crop prospects.

Soybean supplies for 1976/77 are estimated at 1,550 million bushels, down about a tenth from the year ending September 30. With total use expected to top production, prices are slated to continue very strong and may average somewhat above the $5 a bushel estimated for 1975/76. However, large bean plantings in Brazil late this year and in the United States next spring could temper prices in the summer and fall of 1977.

More corn and less soybeans (and soybean meal) in the coming year will result in a change in the price relationship between corn and soybean meal during the next 12 months. Prices of corn at the farm in 1976/77 are currently expected to run a little under the $2.55 per bushel now in prospect for 1975/76. In contrast, with soybean supplies down, bean prices are expected to be higher. Thus, soybean meal prices (44 percent, Decatur) may average significantly above a year earlier.

Supplies of Pork Larger, Beef About Same

Pork production is on the upturn in response to unusually favorable returns in 1975. A turnaround in farrowings last winter has pushed pork production above a year earlier, and continued increases are likely through the first half of 1977. Market

hog inventories on June 1 point to increases of around 15 percent during the balance of 1976. Pork output during January-June 1977 will come largely from this fall's pig crop which producers have said will be up 18 percent. Producers made plans for the fall pig crop when hog feeding was quite profitable, but the recent runup in corn prices may cause them to alter their intentions. However, if producers carry out their early plans, first half 1977 hog slaughter could rise 15 percent or more from the same period of 1976.

A buildup in cattle on feed points to relatively large slaughter during the balance of 1976. On July 1, cattle feeders in 23 States planned to market around 6 million fed cattle during July-September, about one-fifth more than a year ago. The number of steers and heifers on feed in the middle weight groups indicate fourth quarter fed cattle marketings will be moderately below the previous quarter but still well above a year ago. Recent losses by cattle feeders may result in continued heavy slaughter of nonfed steers, heifers, and cows but nonfed slaughter likely will not match last summer and fall. Thus, total slaughter during the summer may about equal the year-ago level, with a small decline in total beef slaughter likely this fall.

Fed beef supplies during the first half of 1977 will be determined by placements during the remainder of 1976. Placements of cattle on feed in 7 States during July were about the same as a year ago. With current returns to cattle feeders well below costs, significantly larger placements will likely be delayed at least until fall. If the fed market picks up and feeding costs are reduced, feedlot placements this fall could be up rather sharply. This would give a substantial increase in fed beef supplies next spring or early summer. However, increased demand and higher priced feeder cattle would cause a cutback in nonfed slaughter sufficient to more than offset increased fed cattle marketings.

The increase in pork supplies will likely more than offset the decline in beef, resulting in total red meat supplies during January-June 1977 a little larger than a year earlier. Sharply larger pork supplies will lead to substantially lower hog prices. Barrows and gilts at 7 markets averaged $49 a hundredweight during April-June. With the expected increase in pork production, hog prices could slip to the low $40 before the end of 1976. Continued increases in production next year may result in prices falling into the high $30's next spring.

Large beef supplies and increasing pork supplies will hold third quarter fed cattle prices well below a year earlier, but prices may pick up and then move into the mid-$40 next winter.

EGGS

Increased Profitability Equals Larger Output

Egg producers were in a cost-price squeeze during much of 1975, but the situation improved last fall and profitability has continued relatively good in 1976. Producers have responded this year by increasing their output relative to 1975. Egg production surpassed year-earlier levels in February and has remained above.

Output through July totaled about 3.1 billion dozens, nearly 1 percent more than in the same months last year. Layer numbers were down 1 percent to an average of 274 million, but average output per hen rose 2 percent to almost 138 eggs. Part of this increase can be attributed to the extra day in February this leap year. However, output per hen was still over 1 percent greater than a year ago on a daily basis.

Layers on farms and eggs produced

Calendar quarters	Number of layers		Eggs per layer		Eggs produced	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*No.*	*No.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*
I	282	279	57.0	58.3	1,339.6	1,355.8
II	273	270	58.5	59.4	1,329.7	1,337.4
III	272		59.0		1,336.8	
IV	279		58.4		1,355.8	
Annual .	276		232.8		5,361.9	

Production to Continue Higher

Recent increases in feed prices (especially soybean meal) means the cost of producing eggs is currently running above year-earlier levels. However, increased egg prices have been more than offsetting for most producers. Unless egg prices are lower than currently expected, fairly good profitability is expected during most of the remainder of 1976. And egg production will likely continue above last year.

Egg-type replacement hatch, by quarters, 1970-76

Year	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Year
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*
1970 ...	78.9	92.5	57.5	56.6	285.5
1971 ...	70.5	87.1	57.0	49.1	263.7
1972 ...	64.4	73.9	56.0	51.3	245.7
1973 ...	66.1	77.0	63.2	60.8	267.1
1974 ...	59.5	75.0	51.9	50.3	236.7
1975 ...	58.4	68.1	53.4	47.0	226.9
1976 ...	62.0	72.8			

Table 2—Egg-type chick hatchery operations, United States and 5 States reporting weekly, 1974-76

Month	United States				5 States[1]							
	Hatch		Change from year earlier		Hatch			Period[2]	Egg settings advanced 3 weeks			
	1974-75	1975-76	Hatch	Eggs in incubators first of month	1974-75	1975-76	Change from year earlier		1974-75	1975-76	Change from year earlier	
	Thou.	*Thou.*	*Pct.*	*Pct.*	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Pct*		*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Pct.*	
January	34,818	35,655	2	3	8,788	9,857	12	Jan. 4-Jan. 31	9,887	10,783	9	
February	36,552	39,197	7	5	9,422	11,471	22	Feb. 1-Feb. 28	11,847	13,717	16	
March	45,372	49,085	8	6	10,816	12,690	17	Feb. 29-Apr. 3	15,297	17,995	18	
April	47,409	50,813	7	1	9,420	11,622	23	Apr. 4-May 1	11,080	14,089	27	
May	47,989	47,632	-1	-1	10,593	10,962	3	May 2-May 29	12,146	13,291	9	
June	40,854	41,859	2	3	9,808	9,798	0	May 30-July 3	11,880	12,314	4	
July	38,099	38,001	0	1	9,621	9,430	-2	July 4-July 31	13,992	14,320	2	
August	34,934			4				Aug. 1-Aug. 28	11,088	11,187	1	
September	33,851							Aug. 29-Oct. 2				
October	34,801							Oct. 3-Oct. 30				
November	28,446							Oct. 31-Nov. 27				
December	30,679							Nov. 28-Jan. 1				

[1] The five States are Georgia, Mississippi, Oregon, Washington, and California. [2] Weeks of 1976 and corresponding weeks of 1975.

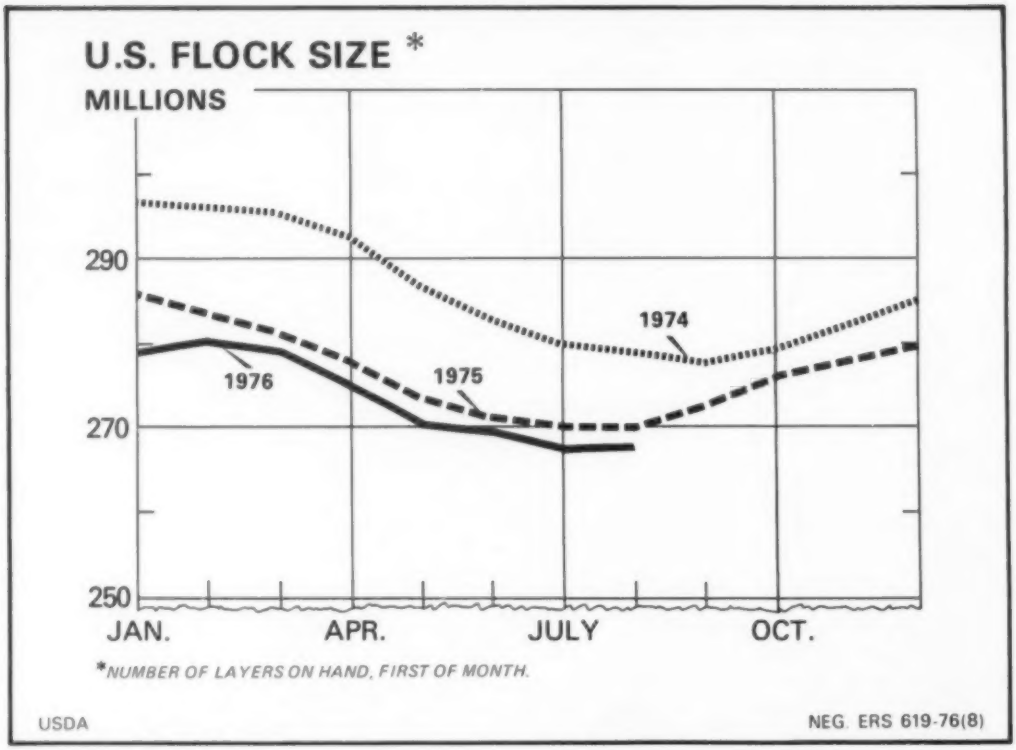
Layer numbers are expected to gain relative to a year earlier in coming months because of more available replacement pullets. The hatch of egg-type chicks during February-June indicates that there should be 5 percent more pullets available in the last 5 months of 1976 than a year earlier (table-2). This may be somewhat offset by a slightly larger cull of old hens.

Mature chicken slaughter under Federal inspection was about 2 percent greater than a year earlier in January-June 1976. Weekly reports indicate that July's slaughter was up about 2 million birds, or 16 percent, from July 1975. However, force molting is above 1975 levels. Layers being force molted and those with molt completed accounted for 20.1 percent of the hens and pullets of laying age in 17 States on August 1, compared with 19.5 percent a year earlier (table 3).

The expected gain in layer numbers and a continued higher rate of lay mean egg production in

Table 3—Forced molt layers as a percent of hens and pullets of laying age first of month, selected States, 1975-76

State	Being molted						Molt completed					
	June		July		August		June		July		August	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Alabama	1.5	2.0	4.0	1.0	3.5	1.0	10.0	8.0	11.5	8.0	12.0	9.5
Arkansas	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	2.5	6.0	4.5	6.0	5.0	4.5	5.0
California	13.0	16.0	6.5	8.5	10.0	9.5	32.0	35.5	36.0	39.0	37.0	38.0
Florida	6.0	6.5	5.5	7.5	3.0	6.5	12.0	9.0	12.5	8.5	14.5	12.0
Georgia	2.5	8.0	8.5	4.0	3.5	5.5	18.5	14.5	21.0	16.5	17.0	19.0
Indiana	.5	1.5	2.0	3.5	3.5	1.0	4.5	7.0	4.0	6.5	6.0	7.0
Iowa	.5	2.0	.5	1.0	.5	2.0	.5	4.0	1.0	3.0	.5	4.5
Mississippi	1.0	1.0	.5	2.5	4.5	4.0	1.0	.5	1.0	.5	1.0	.5
New York	6.0	.5	2.0	.5	3.0	.5	13.0	4.0	14.0	2.5	7.0	3.0
North Carolina	4.0	6.0	7.0	5.0	3.0	2.5	7.0	4.0	6.0	5.0	9.0	6.0
Ohio	1.0	2.0	.5	3.5	2.0	5.0	5.0	3.5	5.0	5.5	5.5	6.5
Oregon	4.0	4.0	7.0	1.5	4.5	2.5	23.0	33.0	26.0	33.0	29.0	30.0
Pennsylvania	1.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	5.5	4.0	5.5	4.5	7.0	7.0
South Carolina	6.5	6.5	3.0	2.0	1.0	1.5	8.0	7.0	12.0	11.5	11.0	10.0
Tennessee	5.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	1.5	4.0	7.0	7.0	8.0	6.0	9.5	6.0
Texas	1.5	5.0	2.0	1.5	1.5	2.0	5.0	4.5	6.0	3.0	6.5	5.5
Washington	9.5	12.0	5.5	12.5	7.5	18.5	34.0	32.5	34.5	34.0	32.5	32.5
17 States	4.7	6.6	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.7	13.7	13.5	15.2	14.4	15.3	15.4



Pullet chicks placed for laying flocks, 1967-71 average and 1972-76*

Month	1967-71 average	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*
January	22.6	22.1	21.7	20.0	19.6	20.3
February	24.4	23.1	22.9	21.3	20.4	22.2
March	33.0	26.7	29.1	26.0	25.4	27.4
April	36.7	29.8	30.0	30.1	26.2	28.5
May	34.6	28.8	30.6	28.8	26.9	27.0
June	27.5	24.1	24.9	24.2	22.9	23.6
July	22.7	22.0	23.1	20.6	21.5	
August	20.8	21.3	23.8	19.8	20.1	
September	21.5	20.5	24.1	18.2	19.6	
October	21.7	21.4	25.9	19.9	19.8	
November	19.6	18.6	22.5	18.7	16.5	
December	19.7	18.4	20.0	18.4	17.7	
Total	304.8	276.8	298.6	266.0	258.9	

*One-half of egg-type chick hatched plus pullet chicks placed domestically for broiler hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders.

coming months will likely be around 1 percent above last year. The higher production probably will continue on into 1977, but the margin of increase may narrow next spring because of reduced profitability.

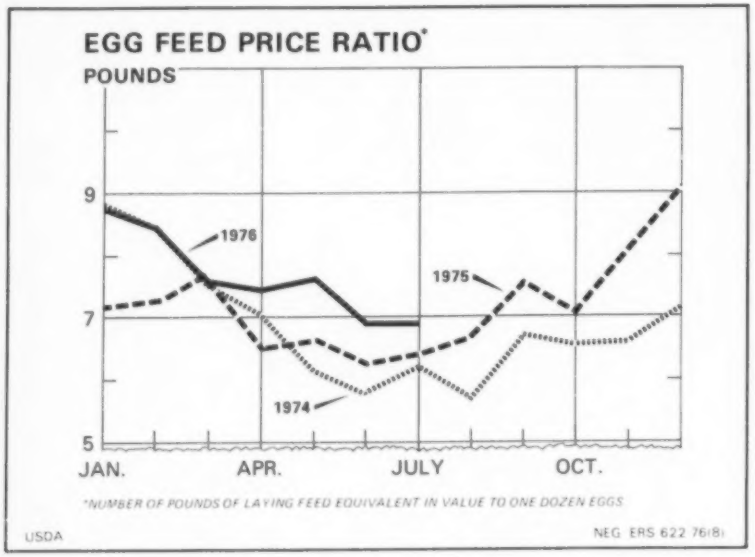
Prices Strong

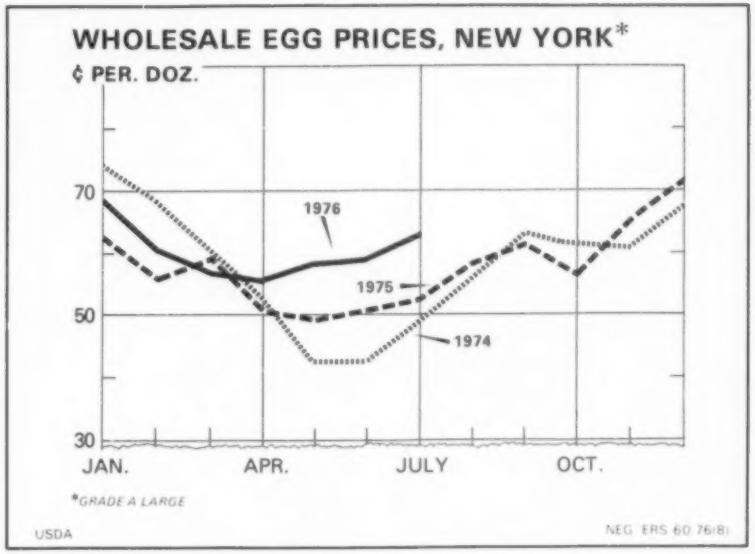
Egg prices have been well above 1975 levels during most of 1976 despite the increased output. Apparently, improved economic conditions have strengthened the demand for both shell eggs and egg products. Wholesale prices for Grade A large eggs in New York averaged a little over 60 cents per dozen in the first 7 months of this year, 6 cents above a year earlier. Prices have been stronger this

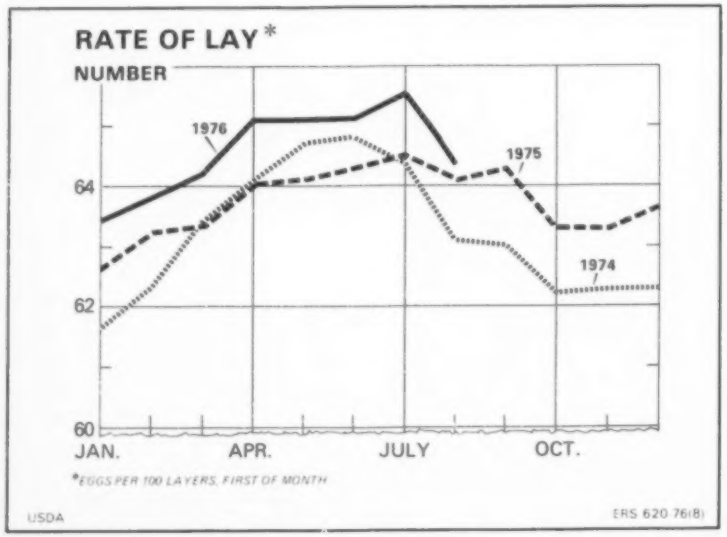
Shell egg prices

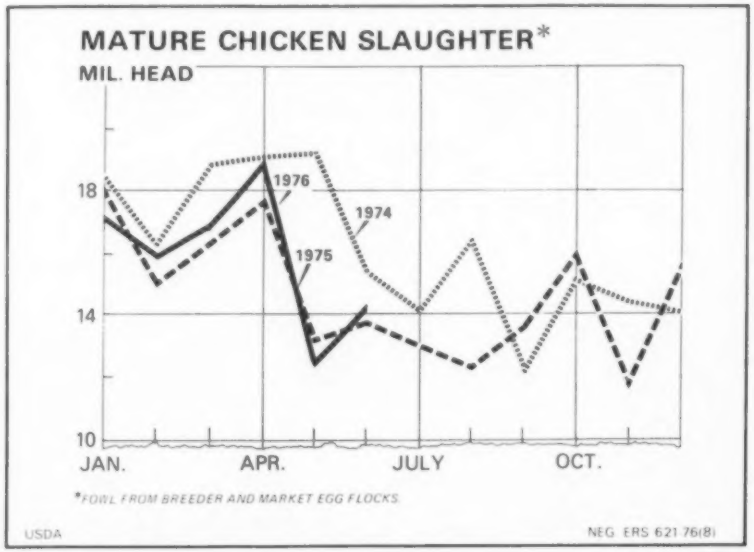
Calendar quarter	Received by producers		New York wholesale[1]		14 Metro areas[2]	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
	Cents per doz.	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*
I	55.1	58.7	59.0	61.9	64.8	67.7
II	46.7	54.2	50.0	57.6	55.3	62.5
III	51.0		57.5		62.0	
IV	58.4		64.7		69.1	
Annual	52.5		57.8		62.8	

[1] Grade A white. [2] Price to volume buyers for consumer Grade A large.


EGG FEED PRICE RATIO*
POUNDS
9
7
5
1976
1975
1974
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*NUMBER OF POUNDS OF LAYING FEED EQUIVALENT IN VALUE TO ONE DOZEN EGGS.
USDA
NEG. ERS 622-76(8)


WHOLESALE EGG PRICES, NEW YORK*
¢ PER. DOZ.
70
50
30
1976
1975
1974
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*GRADE A LARGE
USDA
NEG. ERS 60-76(8)


RATE OF LAY*
NUMBER
64
62
60
1976
1975
1974
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*EGGS PER 100 LAYERS, FIRST OF MONTH
USDA
ERS 620-76(8)


MATURE CHICKEN SLAUGHTER*
MIL. HEAD
18
14
10
1976
1974
1975
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*FOWL FROM BREEDER AND MARKET EGG FLOCKS.
USDA
NEG. ERS 621-76(8)

summer than we earlier expected and in late August averaged 67 cents a dozen, 6 cents above last year. Demand for eggs is expected to remain good in coming months and prices will likely average in the mid- to high 60-cents-a-dozen range. However, the current strong egg prices will mean that the seasonal increase in prices this fall will be less than usual.

Increased Breakings; Record Low Stocks

The increased demand for egg products and a pulldown in stocks to record low levels have resulted in increased breaking activity. During January 4 to July 17, a total of 10.2 million cases of eggs were broken under Federal inspection, about 280,000 cases above the comparable period last year (table 4). However, as shell egg prices increased recently, breakings dropped below year-earlier levels. Production of egg products through June totaled 383 million pounds, 4 percent above a year earlier. Frozen egg production at 168 million pounds was about equal to last year while dried egg production was up 9 percent to 27 million pounds. Liquid egg production for further processing and immediate consumption made up the remainder and showed the largest increase of 8 percent.

Even though commercial egg breakings have been above year-earlier levels, stocks are down sharply. On August 1, cold storage holdings of shell eggs and egg products totaled 833,000 cases (shell equivalent), a slight increase from a month earlier but 570,000 cases below August 1, 1975 (table 14). The previous record low for the date was 1.3 million cases on August 1, 1973.

The record low stocks would normally suggest that commercial egg breakers would increase their activity in coming months. However, the relatively high prices breakers are having to pay for their shell eggs and ask for their products may limit any increases.

Reduced Domestic Supplies

Total egg production was up during January-June, but increased hatching use, exports, and military pruchases, along with reduced stocks and imports, resulted in lower domestic civilian supplies of eggs than last year (table 5).

The number of eggs used for hatching purposes is estimated to have totaled nearly 7 million cases in January-June, 11 percent above last year. Hatching use accounted for 7.9 percent of total eggs produced, compared with 7.2 percent in 1975. Egg-type hatching showed a small increase, but the sharp rise in broiler-type hatch accounted for most of the increase.

Shipments of shell eggs and egg products to American territories and exports totaled a little over 1 million cases (shell equivalent) in January-June. This was slightly larger than a year previous. Exports dropped 8 percent to 544,000 cases, but shipments to American territories advanced 19 percent to 492,000 cases. The main reason for the drop in overseas sales was that overseas sales of dried eggs were less than half of last year's level.

Imports of shell eggs and egg products dropped very sharply in January-June but made up less than one-half of 1 percent of total domestic egg supplies. Imports were only about 14,000 cases (shell equivalent), compared with 129,000 cases in the first half of 1975.

Table 4—Shell eggs broken and egg products produced under federal inspection, 1975-76

Period[1]	Shell eggs broken		Egg products produced[2]					
			Liquid[3]		Frozen		Dried	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
	Thou. doz.	*Thou. doz.*	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*
Jan. 5-Feb. 1	39,854	36,069	22,012	21,263	22,380	20,190	4,220	3,115
Feb. 2-Mar. 1	36,547	37,569	21,409	23,729	20,181	20,670	3,240	3,079
Mar. 2-Mar. 29	34,525	44,727	22,941	26,076	18,866	24,695	2,954	4,726
Mar. 30-Apr. 26	38,774	46,143	23,095	26,107	21,215	26,550	3,955	4,443
Apr. 27-May 24	45,509	45,863	25,685	28,198	25,945	23,688	4,329	4,974
May 25-June 30	67,789	68,698	36,389	41,699	39,645	36,648	6,299	6,967
July 1-July 19	36,159		18,107		20,585		3,827	
July 20-Aug. 16	50,116		27,421		26,067		5,123	
Aug. 17-Sept. 13	46,690		26,074		24,155		4,903	
Sept. 14-Oct. 11	48,056		25,893		24,831		5,418	
Oct. 12-Nov. 8	44,074		26,108		21,635		5,482	
Nov. 9-Dec. 6	33,638		20,319		19,155		3,983	
Dec. 7-Jan. 3	29,676		16,458		17,901		2,364	

[1] Weeks in 1975 and corresponding weeks in 1976. [2] Includes ingredients added. [3] Liquid egg product produced for immediate consumption and for processing.

Table 5—Egg supplies available to civilians for food, January-March and April-June, 1975-76

Item	Unit	January-March			April-June		
		1976	1975	Change from year earlier	1976	1975	Change from year earlier
Beginning stocks	Mil. doz.	28.2	42.2	-14.0	23.0	36.4	-13.4
Farm production	Mil. doz.	1,355.8	1,339.6	16.2	1,337.4	1,329.7	7.7
Imports	Mil. doz.	.1	3.0	-2.9	.2	.9	-.7
Exports and shipments	Mil. doz.	13.5	10.6	2.9	13.5	11.9	1.6
Military procurements	Mil. doz.	13.1	9.7	3.3	10.8	11.9	-1.1
Eggs used for hatching	Mil. doz.	104.2	93.7	10.5	107.4	97.3	11.2
Supplies available to civilians for food:							
Total	Mil. doz.	1,253.3	1,300.8	-47.5	1,228.9	1,245.9	-17.0
Per capita	No.	70.8	74.0	-3.2	69.3	70.8	-1.5
Civilian population	Mil.	212.5	210.8	1.7	212.8	211.1	1.7

BROILERS

Producers Continue Expansion

Broiler producers have not yet begun to significantly cut back on the expansion in production. Broiler meat output in the first half of 1976 exceeded the same period of 1975 by 14 percent and was nearly 9 percent above the previous record first-half output in 1974. The increase resulted from 13 percent more broilers marketed at 1 percent heavier weights. Output through June totaled 4,430 million pounds, 536 million above a year earlier.

If marketing weights continue heavier, broiler output for July-September likely will total around 14 percent above a year ago. Weekly slaughter (liveweight pounds) through August 11 was up about 14 percent, and the number of chicks placed for marketing during the balance of the third quarter was up around 12 percent. Chik placements and eggs set for marketing early in the fourth quarter were still running 10-12 percent above 1975 (table 6). Apparently, most individual producers feel that if they cut back, it would have little effect on total production. Thus, producers probably plan to produce at near capacity as long as it is profitable and will only make significant reductions if and when they get into a severe cost-price squeeze.

If profit margins narrow as expected, the increase in production over 1975 likely will narrow in the fourth quarter. But output of broiler meat will continue at record levels and may total around a tenth above 1975 for October-December.

Broilers slaughtered in Federally inspected plants

Calendar quarters	Number inspected		Average live weight		Certified	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Lb.*	*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*
I	671.2	764.7	3.77	3.82	1,833.0	2,116.4
II	755.5	842.9	3.76	3.78	2,061.5	2,313.7
III	773.9		3.70		2,079.6	
IV	721.2		3.82		1,992.0	
Annual	2,921.8		3.76		7,966.1	

Hatchery Flock Placements Lower

The number of pullet chicks going into the hatchery supply flock declined seasonally during June and July from the high levels of April and May, but remained above year-earlier levels. However, these placements will not begin to show up in the hatchery supply flock until late 1976 or early 1977. Of course, chick placements only account for part of the decrease or increase in the flock size. While placements have continued large, substantially more old layers have been going to slaughter since late June. During the 7 weeks ending August 18, there were about 3.5 million heavy-type mature hens inspected for slaughter in federally inspected plants, 650,000 more than in the comparable weeks of 1975. This may reflect producers' plans not to continue the sharp expansion of 1976 into 1977.

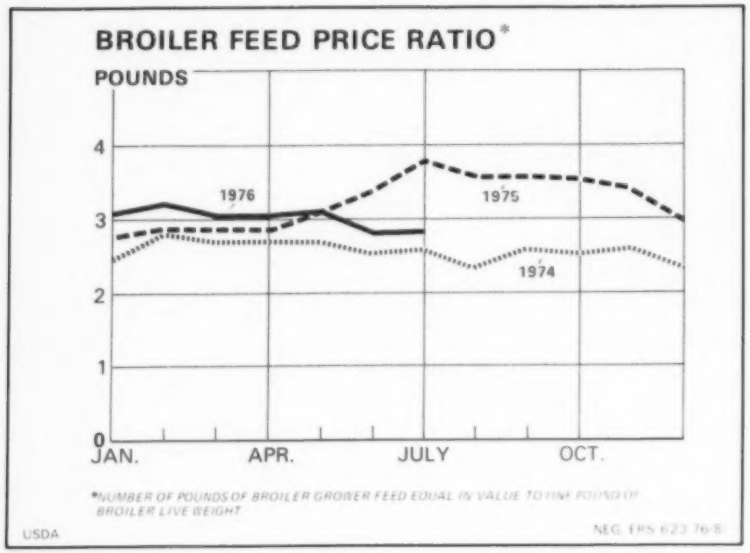
Broiler Prices Remain Strong

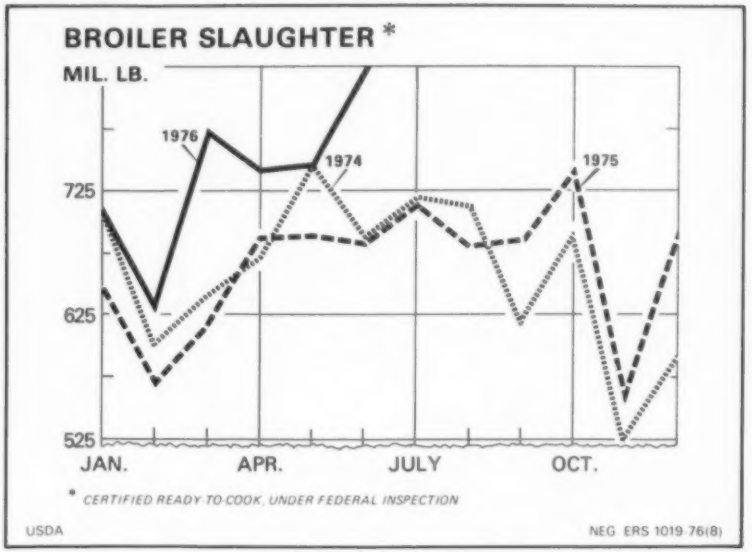
Broiler prices continued relatively strong this summer in the face of the sharply higher supplies of both poultry and red meats and declining prices of red meats. Total commercial red meat production and federally inspected broiler and turkey meat output during July-September will total an estimated 12.7 billion pounds, a tenth more than in the same months of 1975. Wholesale broiler prices in 9 cities during July-August averaged 42.5 cents

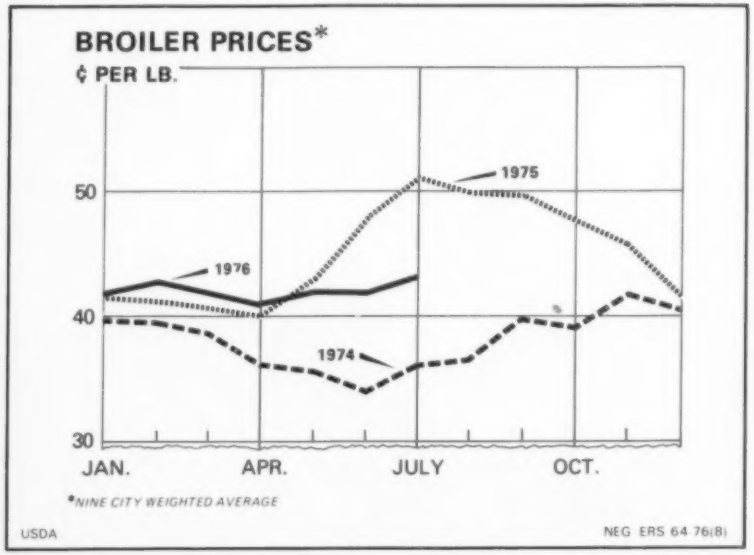
Table 6–Broiler: Eggs set and broiler chicks placed weekly in 21 commercial broiler producing States, 1974-76

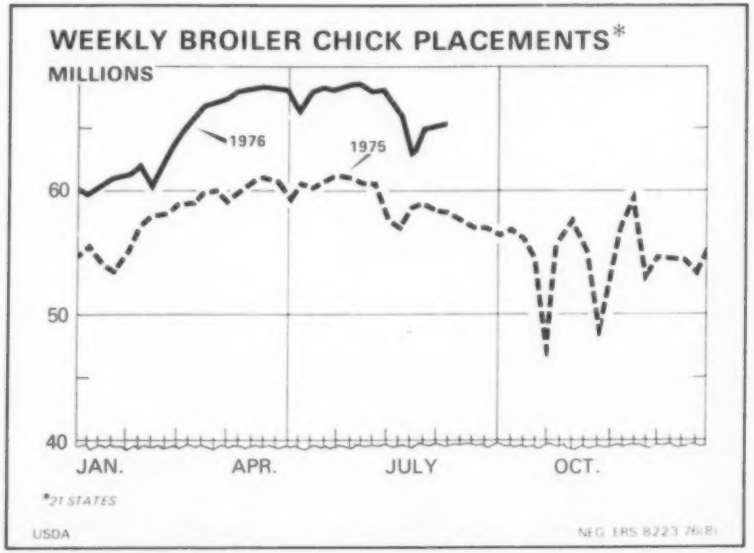
		Eggs set			Percent of previous year	Chicks placed			Percent of previous year
		1974	1975	1976	1976	1974	1975	1976	1976
		Thousand	*Thousand*	*Thousand*	*Percent*	*Thousand*	*Thousand*	*Thousand*	*Percent*
December[1]	6	67,519	65,349	67,850	104	58,826	54,797	59,324	108
	13	73,067	66,715	72,140	108	58,062	54,635	59,177	108
	20	73,524	66,565	72,641	109	58,683	54,499	58,969	108
	27	73,099	66,701	72,857	109	54,650	53,719	56,165	105
	3	73,609	65,629	73,272	112	59,653	55,349	59,000	107
January	10	74,225	64,498	73,609	114	59,375	54,933	59,946	109
	17	72,931	66,755	74,233	111	59,679	53,429	59,615	108
	24	71,875	68,543	74,761	109	59,851	54,259	60,394	111
	31	75,227	69,768	73,808	106	60,371	53,500	60,851	114
February	7	76,073	70,495	75,865	108	59,785	55,314	61,272	111
	14	77,347	71,371	78,086	109	58,824	57,256	61,968	108
	21	77,871	71,308	78,614	111	61,760	57,954	60,416	104
	28	77,847	72,652	80,357	111	62,475	58,015	62,792	108
March	6	76,807	72,080	80,822	112	63,459	58,821	64,561	110
	13	76,363	71,552	81,480	114	63,752	58,776	65,568	112
	20	77,430	72,818	81,844	112	63,778	59,796	66,689	112
	27	78,197	73,608	82,580	112	63,156	60,015	67,287	112
	3	77,019	73,775	82,941	112	62,386	59,312	67,393	114
April	10	77,565	72,297	82,685	114	62,919	59,955	67,992	113
	17	76,689	71,790	82,300	115	63,468	60,939	68,381	112
	24	77,473	73,242	81,625	111	63,259	61,058	68,351	112
	1	77,327	73,892	82,629	112	63,481	60,932	68,439	112
May	8	75,665	73,994	82,767	112	62,620	59,279	67,994	115
	15	76,378	74,033	82,449	111	62,944	60,504	66,709	110
	22	76,499	74,241	83,256	112	63,421	60,120	68,133	113
	29	75,166	74,554	83,420	112	61,810	60,828	68,355	112
June	5	74,426	74,177	82,920	112	62,096	61,374	68,156	111
	12	67,307	70,326	82,740	118	62,001	61,153	68,564	112
	19	67,271	70,140	80,602	115	60,433	60,623	68,745	113
	26	67,748	72,123	77,037	107	59,754	60,650	67,995	112
	3	67,355	72,110	79,821	111	53,911	57,886	68,176	118
July	10	66,700	71,983	79,998	111	53,813	57,244	66,109	115
	17	65,703	71,789	79,375	111	53,789	58,669	62,646	107
	24	65,229	70,325	78,723	112	53,903	58,985	65,214	111
	31	64,361	70,284	77,864	111	53,607	58,420	65,262	112
August	7	63,529	70,087	77,103	110	52,981	58,447	64,706	111
	14	62,824	68,960	76,515	111	52,641	57,723	63,940	111
	21	63,017	70,088			51,640	57,207		
	28	61,194	69,445			51,417	57,136		
September	4	56,226	66,559			51,427	56,445		
	11	54,500	58,501			51,361	56,952		
	18	61,831	68,763			49,116	56,339		
	25	60,193	70,371			45,597	54,388		
	2	56,331	67,393			43,450	46,845		
October	9	51,818	59,532			50,040	56,278		
	16	58,987	63,944			49,688	57,677		
	23	63,252	69,922			45,597	55,207		
	30	64,159	72,638			42,106	48,741		
November	6	64,422	70,669			48,019	52,444		
	13	66,265	72,536			52,079	57,244		
	20	66,312	72,126			52,733	59,681		
	27	66,469	71,943			53,022	58,100		
		3,610,221	3,644,959			2,948,678	2,981,852		

[1] Preceding year.


BROILER FEED PRICE RATIO*
POUNDS
4
3
2
1
0
1976
1975
1974
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*NUMBER OF POUNDS OF BROILER GROWER FEED EQUAL IN VALUE TO ONE POUND OF BROILER LIVE WEIGHT
USDA
NEG. ERS 623-76(8)


BROILER SLAUGHTER *
MIL. LB.
725
625
525
1976
1974
1975
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* CERTIFIED READY-TO-COOK, UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
USDA
NEG. ERS 1019-76(8)


BROILER PRICES*
¢ PER LB.
50
40
30
1975
1976
1974
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*NINE CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE
USDA
NEG. ERS 64-76(8)


WEEKLY BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS*
MILLIONS
60
50
40
1976
1975
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*21 STATES
USDA
NEG. ERS 8223-76(8)

Broiler prices

Calendar quarters	Liveweight		9-city	
	1975	1976	1975	1976
	Cents per pound			
I	23.9	24.6	41.2	42.2
II	25.1	24.2	43.7	41.7
III	29.5		50.3	
IV	26.5		45.1	
Annual	26.3		45.1	

a pound, slightly above April-June but 8 cents below the high prices for the comparable period last year. Prices this year peaked at the 45-cents-a-pound level in early July before weakening seasonally.

Prices are expected to average in the low 40's during the balance of the summer but to decline further in the fall. Broiler meat will be facing stronger competition than in 1975 from increased pork production and larger turkey supplies. The sharp rise in pork supplies will more than offset the small decline in other red meats. Beef, veal, and lamb and mutton production probably will be smaller than in 1975 during the final quarter of 1976. Although rising consumer incomes may be partially offsetting, broiler prices likely will drop to the mid-to-high 30-cents-a-pound level during some weeks in the closing months of 1976, and the 9-city price for October-December may only average in the high 30's. Thus, unless feed prices decline this fall, many producers may find themselves producing broilers below the cost of production and marketing.

Broiler Meat Exports Strong

U.S. exports of young chicken meat (primarily broilers, whole and cut up) this year are running at record levels. Exports during January-June totaled a record 112 million pounds. This was 45 million pounds more than in the same months of 1975 and 5 million more than the previous record of 1962. Although more parts were exported than whole birds, a larger portion of the total this year were in whole form than in other recent years due largely to the quantity of whole birds exported to Iraq. Whole birds accounted for 27 percent of the total, compared with only 14 percent a year earlier.

Exports are expected to continue at record levels in coming months. Much of the 35,000 metric tons of broilers sold to Iraq will be exported during the second half of 1976. In addition, industry sources report that a U.S. company has sold more than 2,000 metric tons of chicken to the USSR. This is equivalent to about 4.5 million pounds of ready-to-cook broiler meat. This would be the first recorded direct sale of U.S. broiler meat to the USSR.

In addition to exports during January-June, 70 million pounds of young chicken were shipped to American territories (largely to Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and Somoa). This was 13 percent more than shipments in this period of 1975.

USDA Purchases Resumed

In early August, USDA resumed purchases of young chicken and chicken products, including canned boned fowl, for distribution in child nutrition (including school lunch programs) and elderly food programs, and other domestic food assistance programs. Through August 24, USDA had purchased 3.5 million pounds of frozen cut up chicken (including 72,000 pounds cooked, cut up) at a delivered cost of $1.8 million.

Prospects for Early 1977

Prospects for broiler producers in early 1977 are less favorable than a year ago. Although production costs may not change significantly from a year earlier, broiler prices are expected to be lower.

Production costs in late 1976 and early 1977 will depend heavily on developments in the 1976 grain and soybean crops and markets. Present indications point to a record U.S. corn crop but a smaller soybean crop. Domestic and foreign demand is expected to continue strong but increased supplies likely will lead to some easing in corn prices from both current and year-earlier levels. However, soybean meal prices during the balance of 1976 and into 1977 are expected to run substantially above a year earlier. Since corn and related products make up around two-thirds of the broiler ration, lower corn prices may about offset the higher soybean meal prices. Cost of most other items used in production and marketing will continue to increase.

Broiler prices next winter are expected to be weaker than a year earlier despite the expected gains in consumers' disposable incomes. Total red meat supplies during January-March 1977 may not differ much from the same months of 1976 but the mix and prices will change substantially. Beef supplies may be moderately lower and prices higher, but this likely will be more than offset by sharply higher pork output and correspondingly lower prices. Indications are that prices of 900-1100 pound Choice steers at Omaha may be up around 15 percent, with barrow and gilt prices at 7 markets during January-March 30 percent below a year earlier. Overall, this means increased competition for broilers and, with broiler supplies at last year's level, lower prices.

It is expected that if consumer incomes and supplies of competing meats during January-March 1977 are as currently expected and broiler supplies

Table 7—Estimated 1st Quarter 1977 Broiler Price/Consumption Relationships[1]

Domestic Civilian Per Capita Consumption		Estimated 9-city wholesale broiler price
Pounds	Percent change from year earlier	
		Cents per lb.
8.2	-15%	46-48
8.7	-10%	44-46
9.2	-5%	42-44
9.7	-0-	40-42[2]
10.2	+5%	38-40
10.7	+10%	36-38
11.2	+15%	34-36

[1] Based on historical relationships during January-March 1960-76. [2] The estimated 40-42 cents per pound is based on prospective conditions for competing meats and general economic activity and assumes no change from a year earlier in per capita consumption of broilers.

The prices other than the base 40-42 cents per pounds price were estimated by assuming the same conditions for competing meats and economic activity as under the base but various changes from a year earlier in the per capita consumption of broilers.

about equal to a year earlier, the 9-city wholesale price would average between 40 and 42 cents per pound (table 7). This compares with 42 cents last year. The currently expected 6-percent increase in output would likely result in broiler prices of 38 to 40 cents. Past relationships indicate that a 10-percent change in production from a year earlier would result in about an equal percentage change in broiler prices in the opposite direction.

These relationships are based on per capita consumption of broiler meat, but changes in per capita consumption closely parallel changes in broiler meat supplies. Population in recent years has increased about 0.8 percent a year. Factors other than production affecting year-to-year changes in per capita consumption are changes in exports, in shipments to American territories, in military use, and in cold storage stocks.

The relationship between broiler prices and the major factors affecting them give only rough indications for January-March 1977 even if conditions develop as expected.

TURKEYS

Record Turkey Supplies

Record turkey production and below year-earlier market prices combined with rising production costs have placed many turkey producers in an unfavorable situation in recent months. Turkey output in federally inspected slaughter plants this year through June totaled 575 million pounds, ready-to-cook, up 26 percent from a year earlier and slightly above the record January-June 1974 output. Producers marketed 22 percent more birds at an average liveweight of 17.4 pounds, a little more than 3 percent above a year earlier and slightly above the previous 1974 record average weight.

Poult production, largely for marketing during the summer, (table 9) was up around 13 percent. Turkey meat output during July-September will

Turkey slaughtered in Federally inspected plants

Calendar quarters	Number inspected		Average live weight		Certified	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Lb.*	*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*
I	12.3	14.7	17.1	17.9	166.4	206.6
II	21.8	27.1	16.7	17.2	289.0	368.5
III	44.0		17.9		625.5	
IV	41.4		19.4		635.2	
Annual	119.4		18.1		1,716.1	

Table 8—Young chicken: Supply and utilization, First quarter 1965-76

Year	Production	Beginning stocks	Total supply	Ending stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappearance	Population	Per capita
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million*	*Pounds*
1965	1,308	37	1,345	29	22	21	1,273	190.7	6.7
1966	1,429	34	1,463	27	35	21	1,380	192.7	7.2
1967	1,507	56	1,563	55	30	23	1,454	194.5	7.5
1968	1,526	56	1,582	38	29	23	1,493	196.4	7.6
1969	1,625	26	1,651	26	31	19	1,575	198.4	7.9
1970	1,800	34	1,834	39	41	13	1,740	200.7	8.7
1971	1,814	52	1,866	44	45	13	1,764	203.3	8.7
1972	1,942	40	1,982	30	55	10	1,886	205.7	9.2
1973	1,911	29	1,940	21	49	10	1,853	207.5	8.9
1974	2,009	33	2,042	35	64	4	1,939	209.1	9.3
1975	1,860	37	1,897	28	65	8	1,797	210.8	8.5
1976[1]	2,147	22	2,169	19	78	8	2,064	212.5	9.7

[1] Preliminary.

Table 9—Turkeys: Monthly hatchings by breed type, advanced to indicate prospective month of marketing, 1975-77

Month of marketing	Light breed advanced 4 months			Heavy breeds						All turkey: Sum of preceding columns*		
				Hens advanced 5 months			Toms advanced 6 months					
	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977
	Million	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*
January	0.5	0.7		2.6	3.7		5.9	6.4	6.7	9.1	10.8	
February	1.2	1.0		1.3	1.8		2.6	3.7		5.1	6.5	
March	1.3	1.2		1.5	1.7		1.3	1.8		4.1	4.8	
April	1.3	1.5		1.8	2.1		1.5	1.7		4.6	5.3	
May	1.2	1.8		2.6	3.2		1.8	2.1		5.7	7.1	
June	1.4	1.4		3.7	4.4		2.6	3.2		7.7	9.0	
July	1.4	1.9		5.3	6.1		3.7	4.4		10.5	12.4	
August	1.7	2.0		7.4	8.3		5.3	6.1		14.3	16.4	
September	1.5	1.8		8.5	8.9		7.4	8.3		17.4	19.0	
October	1.4	1.8		8.8	9.2		8.5	8.9		18.7	19.9	
November	1.5	1.9		8.1	8.9		8.8	9.2		18.4	19.9	
December	1.3			6.4	6.7		8.1	8.9		15.8		

*Details may not add exactly to totals due to rounding.

continue at record levels and total 12-14 percent above last year. Although rising seasonally, producers last spring sharply reduced the number of poults hatched relative to 1975 as they moved into the heavy hatching season. The margin over 1975 in the number of poults hatched during April-June dropped to 8 percent, compared with a 16-percent increase during January-March. The July hatch was up 8 percent, but turkey eggs in incubators on August 1 were 8 percent below August 1, 1975 (table 00). Output for October-December is expected to total around 6 percent larger than in 1975.

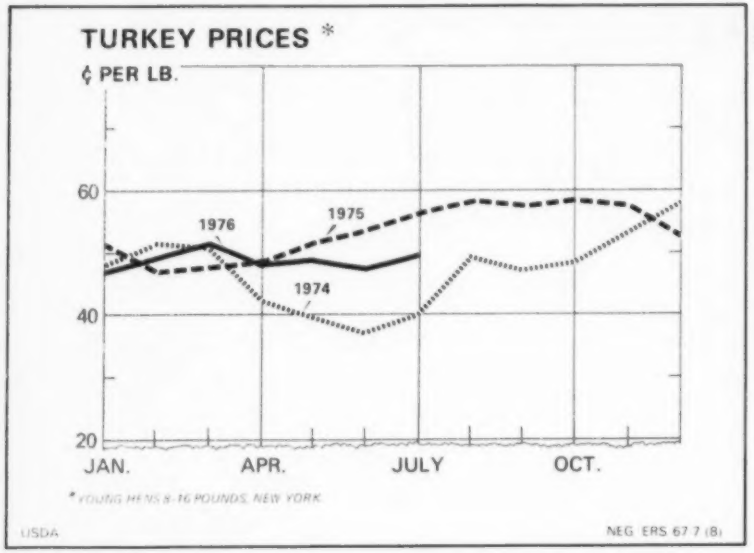
Storage Stocks Rising

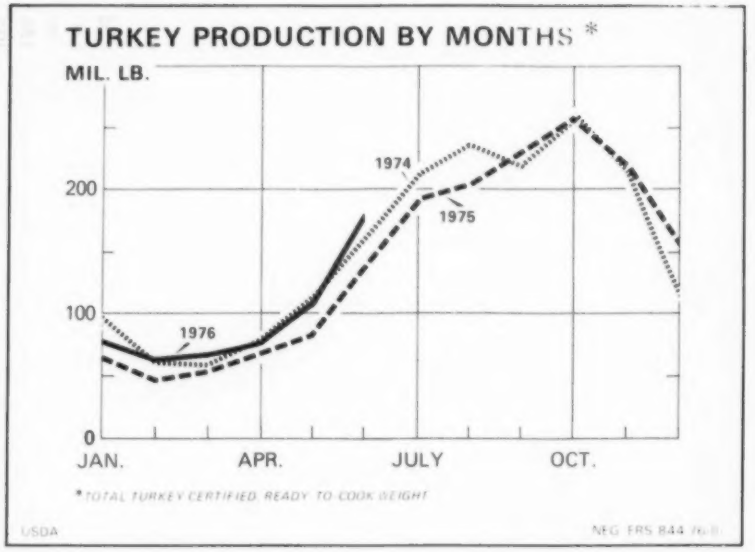
The sharp rise in production this year resulted in rising cold storage stocks relative to a year earlier (table 14). This is in contrast to 1975 when production lagged and storage stocks declined. On January 1, this year, stocks were down 80 million pounds from a year earlier, but by August 1 stocks at 252 million pounds were 3 million pounds above August 1, 1975. This was the first time since December 1, 1974 that stocks has surpassed the same month a year earlier.

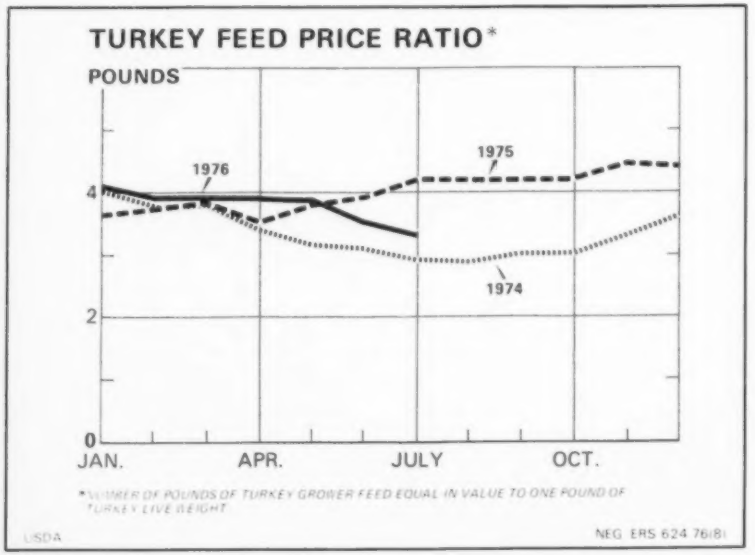
Table 10—Turkey hatchery operations, United States and 9 States reporting weekly, 1974-76

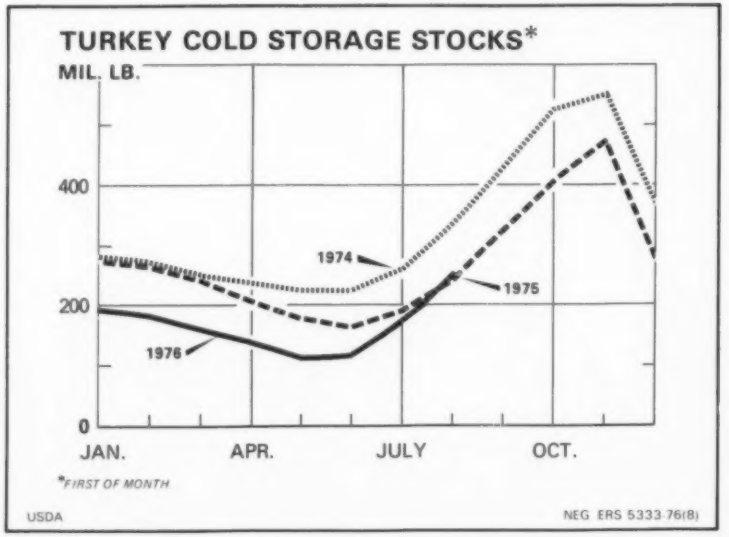
Month	United States				Period[2]	9-States[1]					
	Hatch		Change from year earlier			Hatch			Egg settings advanced 4 weeks		
	1974-1975	1975-1976	Hatch	Eggs in incubators first of month		1974-1975	1975-1976	Change from year earlier	1974-1975	1975-1976	Change from year earlier
September	3,170	4,337	37	30	Aug. 31-Sept. 27	2,429	3,570	47	4,214	5,851	39
October	4,193	4,465	6	2	Sept. 28-Nov. 1	4,041	4,310	7	6,311	6,444	2
November	4,987	5,391	8	6	Nov. 2-Nov. 29	3,959	4,252	7	5,798	6,083	5
December	6,523	7,888	21	14	Nov. 30-Jan. 3	6,213	7,543	21	9,138	10,750	18
January	8,689	10,513	21	20	Jan. 4-Jan. 31	6,705	7,858	17	10,045	11,105	11
February	12,024	13,716	14	21	Feb. 1-Feb. 28	9,329	10,330	11	13,773	14,061	2
March	16,125	18,475	15	-1	Feb. 29-Apr. 3	14,250	16,756	18	20,812	23,580	13
April	18,617	19,748	6	4	Apr. 4-May 1	13,640	14,291	5	19,999	20,390	2
May	19,094	20,171	6	6	May 2-May 29	13,379	14,132	6	20,208	21,101	4
June	17,540	19,572	12	5	May 30-July 3	16,006	17,827	11	25,782	25,219	-2
July	14,258	15,354	8	5	July 4-July 31	8,084	8,393	4	16,699	17,333	4
August	8,648			-8	Aug. 1-Aug. 28				10,992	10,332	-6

[1] California, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin. [2] Weeks of 1975-76 and corresponding weeks of 1974-75.


TURKEY PRICES *
¢ PER LB.
60
40
20
1976
1975
1974
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*YOUNG HENS 8-16 POUNDS, NEW YORK
USDA
NEG. ERS 67 7 (8)


TURKEY PRODUCTION BY MONTHS *
MIL. LB.
200
100
0
1974
1975
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*TOTAL TURKEY CERTIFIED, READY-TO-COOK WEIGHT
USDA


TURKEY FEED PRICE RATIO*
POUNDS
4
2
0
1976
1975
1974
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*NUMBER OF POUNDS OF TURKEY GROWER FEED EQUAL IN VALUE TO ONE POUND OF TURKEY LIVE WEIGHT
USDA
NEG. ERS 624-76(8)


TURKEY COLD STORAGE STOCKS*
MIL. LB.
400
200
0
1974
1975
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*FIRST OF MONTH
USDA
NEG. ERS 5333-76(8)

Although carryin stocks were down, first half 1976 production rose 124 million pounds making January-June supplies around 40 million pounds or 6 percent larger than in 1975. As a result of generally lower turkey prices and increased export demand, disappearance of turkey meat during the first half of 1976 rose about 8 percent from the same period of 1975.

Turkey Prices Weak

Turkey prices have been relatively weak this summer. New York wholesale prices for 8-16 pound young hen turkeys in late August averaged about 47 cents a pound, 11 cents below a year earlier. Turkey prices will be under downward pressures from large supplies and lower prices for pork and broilers. Thus, prices are expected to show only limited seasonal increases this summer and fall, with prices for the balance of the year averaging near the 50-cents-a-pound level, more than a nickel below a year earlier.

Turkey prices

Calendar quarters	Liveweight		New York wholesale			
			Young hens 8-16 pounds		Young toms 14-20 pounds	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
	Cents per pound					
I	31.4	32.7	48.6	49.5	46.3	47.6
II	31.1	31.7	51.1	48.2	46.6	49.3
III	35.5		57.1		55.3	
IV	36.4		56.0		56.3	
Annual	33.6		53.2		51.8	

Export Demand Strong

Exports of turkeys so far this year are at record levels. Through June they totaled 33 million pounds, almost double first half 1975. Export demand may ease during the second half of 1976 but is expected to remain well above a year earlier. Increased exports will largely depend on changes in supplemental and variable levies bythe EC-9 (European Community countries) since a large proportion of our turkey exports go there. About 70 percent of U.S. turkey exports in 1975 went to EC-9 countries.

USDA To Buy Turkey

On July 15 USDA announced plans to buy fresh whole turkey, turkey rolls, and canned boned turkey to be used in child nutrition, (includes school lunch program) and elderly food programs, and other domestic food assistance programs. Through August 25, USDA had contracted topurchase 6.6 million pounds of ready-to-cook young turkey and 2.5 million pounds of cooked turkey rolls. This is the equivalent of about 10.5 million pounds of ready-to-cook young carcass turkeys.

Turkey Prospects for First Half 1977

Turkey producers are expected to raise fewer turkeys in the first half of 1977 than a year earlier because of poor profits during the summer and fall this year. Output during January-June 1977 may fall 15 percent below the same months of 1976. However, this likely will be partially offset by larger cold storage holdings at the beginning of 1977. Current indications point to a rise in turkey cold storage stocks on January 1, 1977—perhaps to 220-230 million pounds.

The costs of producing and marketing turkeys during the first half of 1977 may be near a year earlier if the 1976 corn and soybean crops turn out about as currently expected. Based on current estimates, corn prices likely will lag a year earlier, while soybean meal will be moderately higher. Even though first half production and marketing costs may total about the same as in 1976, returns to producers may lag as turkey meat faces stronger competition from pork and broilers.

The relationships between turkey prices and the major factors that affect them—turkey supplies, consumer incomes, and prices and supplies of competing meats—were examined for January-June 1963-76. The relationships between turkey prices and these factors are highly inconsistent. One

Table 11—Estimated 1st Half 1977 Turkey Price/Production Relationships[1]

Total Federally Inspected Slaughter of Turkey		Estimated New York wholesale price for young hen turkeys[2]
Million pounds	Percent change from year earlier	
		cents per pound
490	-15	47-50
520	-10	46-49
545	-5	45-48
575	0	44-47[3]
605	+5	43-46
630	+10	42-45
660	+15	41-44

[1] Based on historical relationships during January-June 1963-76. [2] Simple average for 8-16 pound young hen turkeys, f.o.b. dock or equivalent in carlots or truckiots, U.S. Grade A, frozen, ready-to-cook. [3] The estimated 44-47 cents per pound is based on prospective conditions for competing meats, general economic activity, and cold storage holdings of turkey meat and assumes no change from a year earlier in the federally inspected slaughter of turkey.

The prices other than the base 44-47 cents per pound were estimated by assuming the same conditions as under the base for competing meats, economic activity, and cold storage holdings but various changes from a year earlier in the slaughter of turkey.

reason is because of the relatively small amount of turkey meat sold during these months compared with the other meats. The New York wholesale price for young hen turkeys may average 44 to 47 cents per pound under the following conditions: (1) consumers' income continues to gain; (2) supplies of competing meats in the first half of 1977 turn out as currently expected; (3) larger cold storage stocks on January 1, 1977; and (4) federally inspected turkey slaughter is equal to a year earlier. If output turns out as expected, 15 percent below a year earlier, prices may average 47-50 cents a pound. This compares with about 49 cents in 1976.

As stated, these relationships for this time period have a wide margin of error and give only a rough indication for the first half of 1977, even if conditions develop as expected.

Table 12—Turkey: Supply and utilization, January-June 1965-76

Year	Production	Beginning stocks	Total supply	Ending stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappearance	Population	Per capita
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million*	*Pounds*
1965	178	207	385	70	16	13	287	191.0	1.5
1966	234	200	434	70	13	22	329	192.9	1.7
1967	304	267	571	160	15	21	374	194.7	1.9
1968	258	367	625	185	16	24	400	196.6	2.0
1969	261	317	578	119	15	15	427	198.6	2.1
1970	293	192	485	95	13	8	358	201.0	1.8
1971	392	219	611	140	10	18	443	203.6	2.2
1972	444	223	667	143	11	24	488	206.0	2.4
1973	475	208	683	137	19	6	521	207.7	2.5
1974	592	281	873	266	22	1	584	209.3	2.8
1975	478	275	753	193	18	7	536	211.0	2.5
1976[1]	602	195	797	178	35	7	577	212.7	2.7

[1] Preliminary.

Table 13—Prices and price spreads for eggs and frying chickens, for selected cities and 10 city-average

Item	Grade A large eggs			U.S. grade A fryers		
	April 1976	May 1976	June 1976	April 1976	May 1976	June 1976
	Cents per dozen	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*
10-city Average prices						
Farm price	47.9	45.5	44.3	31.2	30.5	33.3
Price to retailer	NA	61.4	60.9	46.5	45.5	47.9
Retail price	76.9	74.8	74.2	63.2	60.8	63.0
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	29.0	29.3	29.9	32.0	30.3	29.7
Farm to retailer	NA	15.9	16.6	15.3	15.0	14.6
Retail	NA	13.4	13.3	16.7	15.3	15.1
New York prices						
Farm price	47.6	45.3	43.1	32.6	30.8	33.3
Price to retailer	64.0	61.5	58.3	44.5	43.0	47.0
Retail price	86.1	79.5	79.4	67.8	65.7	59.7
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	38.5	34.2	36.3	35.2	34.9	26.4
Farm to retailer	16.4	16.2	15.2	11.9	12.2	13.7
Retail	22.1	18.0	21.1	23.3	22.7	12.7
Boston prices						
Farm price	46.1	46.7	42.5	33.2	31.2	33.5
Price to retailer	60.0	59.5	56.5	46.7	45.3	47.2
Retail price	82.5	82.7	73.6	64.9	68.7	68.1
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	36.4	36.0	31.1	31.7	37.5	34.6
Farm to retailer	13.9	12.8	14.0	13.5	14.1	13.7
Retail	22.5	23.2	17.1	18.2	23.4	20.9
Chicago prices						
Farm price	46.6	44.3	41.7	29.5	28.2	32.3
Price to retailer	62.5	58.5	59.0	44.0	43.5	46.0
Retail price	78.5	77.8	70.4	63.7	57.6	63.5
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	31.9	33.5	28.7	34.2	29.4	31.2
Farm to retailer	15.9	14.2	17.3	14.5	15.3	13.7
Retail	16.0	19.3	11.4	19.7	14.1	17.5
St. Louis prices						
Farm price	51.7	49.7	46.2	29.8	28.4	32.5
Price to retailer	64.0	59.0	59.0	44.7	44.8	47.8
Retail price	76.7	73.0	74.0	63.2	63.9	65.3
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	25.0	23.3	27.8	33.4	35.5	32.8
Farm to retailer	12.3	9.3	12.8	14.9	16.4	15.3
Retail	12.7	14.0	15.0	18.5	19.1	17.5
San Fransico prices						
Farm price				32.5	32.0	34.5
Price to retailer				53.0	51.5	53.0
Retail price				64.7	65.0	68.6
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer				32.2	33.0	34.1
Farm to retailer				20.5	19.5	18.5
Retail				11.7	13.5	15.6
Atlanta prices						
Farm price	47.0	44.0	42.5	29.1	28.1	32.1
Price to retailer	62.2	58.5	58.5	41.4	40.5	44.5
Retail price	75.4	71.6	69.5	63.6	53.2	62.3
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	28.4	27.6	27.0	34.5	25.1	30.2
Price to retailer	15.2	14.5	16.0	12.3	12.4	12.4
Retail	13.2	13.1	11.0	22.2	12.7	17.8

NA—not available.

Table 14—Cold storage holdings of high protein foods, August 1, 1976 with comparisons

Item	Unit	August 1, 1974	August 1, 1975	July 1, 1976	August 1, 1976
		Thousands	*Thousands*	*Thousands*	*Thousands*
Total eggs[1]	Case	1,591	1,402	792	833
Shell	do.	95	84	25	60
Frozen	Pound	59,103	52,058	30,308	30,530
Total poultry	do.	522,285	391,773	305,466	395,032
Total chicken	do.	179,823	137,629	123,648	137,552
Broilers, fryers and roasters	do.	34,333	21,733	20,043	24,425
Hens	do.	62,655	54,333	34,267	39,013
Other frozen chicken	do.	82,835	61,563	69,338	74,114
Total turkey	do.	335,800	248,570	177,835	251,962
Whole	do.	272,275	208,469	137,288	204,510
Other	do.	63,525	40,101	40,547	47,452
Ducks	do.	6,662	5,574	3,983	5,518
All red meats[2]	do.	796,063	578,184	726,629	671,209
Beef	do.	383,888	260,594	397,103	381,346
Frozen pork	do.	277,839	216,310	219,455	178,764
Pork in cooler	do.	14,002	13,433	16,411	16,613
Total cheese	do.	565,980	477,136	480,608	513,700

[1] Frozen eggs converted on the basis of 39.5 pounds to the case. [2] Includes other meat and meat products.

Table 15—Estimated costs and returns for market eggs[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs all eggs		Wholesale, cartoned Grade A large eggs		Net returns[2 5]
	Feed[3]	Total[3]	Total costs[2 3]	14 metro areas price[2]	
	Cents per dozen	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*
Annual average[2]					
1972	17.3	28.9	43.3	40.5	-2.8
1973	29.2	41.7	58.1	64.3	6.2
1974	31.0	45.4	63.5	63.0	-0.4
1975	29.0	43.5	61.8	62.9	1.0
1974					
I	31.2	45.6	63.6	72.3	8.6
II	27.5	41.9	59.9	52.1	-7.8
III	31.4	45.8	63.8	59.9	-3.9
IV	34.1	48.5	66.6	67.8	1.2
1975					
I	30.8	45.3	63.6	65.0	1.3
II	28.3	42.8	61.1	55.3	-5.7
III	29.3	43.8	62.1	61.9	-0.2
IV	27.8	42.3	60.6	69.1	8.5
1976[4]					
I	26.9	41.4	59.9	67.7	7.9
II	27.9	42.4	60.9	62.5	1.7

[1] Based on secondary data and incomplete data from survey. Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly egg production less estimated eggs used for hatching. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for Grade A large eggs. [4] Preliminary. [5] May not add across due to rounding.

Table 16—Estimated costs and returns for broilers[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs liveweight		Wholesale ready-to-cook		Net returns[2,3,5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2,3]	9-city weighted average price[2]	
	Cents per pound	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*
Annual average[2]					
1972	9.0	14.3	28.2	28.2	-0.1
1973	16.4	22.2	39.8	42.4	2.6
1974	15.8	22.0	40.1	38.0	-2.0
1975	15.1	21.3	39.4	45.2	5.8
1974					
I	16.1	22.3	40.5	39.3	-1.2
II	15.2	21.3	39.2	35.3	-3.9
III	14.5	20.7	38.3	37.6	-0.7
IV	17.7	23.8	42.6	40.4	-2.3
1975					
I	16.4	22.6	41.3	41.2	0.0
II	14.5	20.7	38.7	43.7	5.0
III	14.6	20.8	38.7	50.3	11.6
IV	15.0	21.2	39.3	45.1	5.8
1976[4]					
I	13.7	20.0	38.0	42.1	4.2
II	14.1	20.4	38.5	41.7	3.2

[1] Based on secondary data and incomplete data from survey. Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly broiler slaughter. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for ready-to-cook broilers. [4] Preliminary. [5] May not add across due to rounding.

Table 17—Estimated costs and returns for turkeys[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs liveweight		Wholesale ready-to-cook		Net returns[2,3,5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2,3]	New York young hen price[2]	
	Cents per pound	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*
Annual average[2]					
1972	13.5	20.5	34.1	36.6	2.5
1973	25.6	33.1	50.6	64.5	13.9
1974	22.5	30.7	48.8	47.0	-1.8
1975	22.1	30.7	49.4	55.1	5.8
1974					
I	22.1	30.3	48.4	49.9	1.6
II	23.6	31.8	50.2	39.2	-11.0
III	19.9	28.1	45.6	45.6	-0.1
IV	24.8	33.0	51.7	52.1	0.4
1975					
I	25.6	34.2	53.8	48.9	-4.9
II	21.6	30.2	48.7	51.7	3.0
III	21.3	29.9	48.4	57.1	8.7
IV	22.2	30.8	49.5	56.5	7.0
1976[4]					
I	20.2	29.2	48.0	49.4	1.4
II	20.5	29.5	48.4	48.1	-0.4

[1] Based on secondary data and incomplete data from survey. Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly turkey slaughter. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for heavy young turkey hens. [4] Preliminary. [5] May not add across due to rounding.

SHELL EGG PACKING AND BROILER PROCESSING COSTS IN MAJOR REGIONS

by
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ABSTRACT: Records from 97 egg packing plants indicate average packing costs per dozen of almost 7.75 cents in 1974-76, with almost a cent for fixed costs and the balance for variable costs. Additional costs incurred by plants for product assembly and distribution ranged from 1.6 to over 3 cents per dozen. For 33 broiler processing plants, costs per pound of processing ready-to-cook broilers averaged 7.36 cents during 1973-75, with from under 1 cent up to 1.5 cents for fixed costs and the balance for variable costs. Additional costs of 1.8 to 2.7 cents were incurred for broiler assembly and distribution.

KEYWORDS: Eggs, broilers, processing, assembly, distribution, costs.

Costs for assembly, packing, processing, and distributing functions performed by shell egg packing plants and broiler processing plants account for more than 40 percent of farm-to-retail price spreads. These costs have risen more than a third over the past 5 years due to sharply higher costs for packaging materials and energy nd smaller increases in costs for labor and other inputs.

Egg Packing

Records for 1974-76 from 97 egg packing plants in four major egg producing regions showed total costs averaging about 10.25 cents per dozen for the aggregate of eggs sold both in cartoned and loose packs (table 1). About 7.75 cents was for inplant costs. Of the inplant costs, less than a half were for packaging materials—including cartons, cases, filler flats—about a third for wages and salaries, and about 12 percent for overhead costs. Inplant costs averaged lowest on the West Coast and highest in the Northeast.

Of the 2.5 cents for assembly and distribution costs, over 0.8 cent was for moving eggs from farms to packing plants and the balance was both for long-distance hauling to and distributing within consuming markets. Assembly and distributing costs vary considerably from firm to firm within regions. Some packing plants are located

Table 1—Shell egg packing plant costs,[1] major regions, 1974-76

Item	South 1974-75	Northeast 1974	Midwest 1974	West Coast 1974-76
No. of plants	16	37	26	18
Volume (mil. cs.)	4.6	10.6	4.7	8.3
Product form:				
% cartoned	79	67	75	75
% loose	21	33	25	25
	(cents per dozen)			
Variable costs:				
Plant labor	1.91	1.91	1.95	1.97
Packaging	3.69	3.88	3.75	3.70
Utilities, fuel	.19	.37	.23	.20
Management, office	.56	1.10	.51	.37
Miscellaneous	.16	.36	.19	.21
Total	6.51	7.62	6.63	6.45
Fixed costs:				
Depreciation, rent	.43	.54	.41	.45
Repairs, maintenance	.16	.08	.20	.10
Taxes, interest, insurance	.37	.36	.35	.33
Total	.96	.98	.96	.88
Total inplant costs	7.47	8.60	7.59	7.33
Assembly costs	.51	.72	1.10	.94
Distribution costs	1.75	.88	1.76	2.42
Total all costs	9.73	10.20	10.45	10.69

[1] For cartoned and loose eggs combined. Costs reflect physical and quality losses in performing marketing functions.

Source: Data collected under cooperative agreements between the Georgia, Missouri, and Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Stations and the Economic Research Service.

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adjacent to production operations and have negligible costs for assembly, while others obtain supplies from over a large area. Some firms deliver larger proportions of their output to retail stores and warehouses than do others. Distribution costs for regions do, however, also tend to reflect distances to major markets.

The 97 egg packig plants were generally large in size and accounted for over 16 percent of the eggs destined for domestic consumption. Some also operated-egg breaking plants. Of the volume sold by the sample plants, about three-fourths was in cartons and the balance packed loose in cases.

In recent years, an important yardstick in the pricemaking process has been the costs of packing Grade A large eggs in cartons from the No. 1 Nest Run grade. Three surveys of inplant costs of various sizes of firms made between late 1974 and early 1976 showed average costs of 11.68 cents per dozen. Of this average, 4.02 cents was for net cost of materials, 4.82 cents for plant operating and overhead costs, and 2.84 cents per dozen for grade and size loss. Total costs averaged 12.5 cents in the Northeast, 11.3 cents in the Midwest, and 11.5 cents in the South.

Broiler Processing

Records for 1973-75 from 33 broiler processing plants in three major regions showed total costs averaging almost 9.70 cents per pound, ready-to-cook weight (table 2). About 7.36 cents was for inplant costs. Of the inplant costs, almost 58 percent was for wages and salaries, over 17 percent for packaging materials, and over 15 percent for overhead costs. Inplant costs averaged lowest in the South and highest on the West Coast.

Of the 2.3 cents for assembly and distribution costs, 1.0 cent was for loading and hauling live broilers from farms to plants. The balance was both for long-distance hauling of ready-to-cook products and distributing within consuming markets. Assembly costs were similar in various regions because most broiler processing plants obtain birds from supply areas of limited radius. On the other hand, distribution costs may vary widely within and among regions due both to distances to major markets and relative proportions of output delivered to rtail stores and warehouses.

The commercial broiler processing plants were about average in size and accounted for about 17 percent of total slaughter. Some plants also had further-processing operations in addition to slaughtering, eviscerating, and cutting-up lines. For the plants in the sample, further processing accounted for only 3-4 percent of volume, compared with almost 62 percent sold in ready-to-cook whole form and over 34 percent in cut-up form.

Table 2—Broiler processing plant costs,[1] major regions, 1973-75

Item	South 1973-74	North-east 1974	West Coast 1973-75
No. of plants	16	11	6
Volume (mil. lbs. RTC)	732	326	232
Product form:			
% whole	70	60	55
% cut-up	26	34	44
% further-processed	4	6	1
	(cents per pound, RTC wt.)		
Variable costs:			
Plant labor	3.25	3.97	3.87
Packaging	1.10	1.44	1.28
Utilities, fuel	.34	.56	.41
Management, office	.52	.49	.59
Miscellaneous	.21	.30	.37
Total	5.42	6.76	6.52
Fixed costs:			
Depreciation, rent	.33	.30	.87
Repairs, maintenance	.35	.20	.36
Taxes, interest, insurance	.34	.31	.32
Total	1.02	.81	1.55
Total inplant costs	6.44	7.57	8.07
Assembly costs	1.04	.96	1.00
Distribution costs	1.45	.86	1.70
Total all costs	8.93	9.39	10.77

[1] Costs below do not include further-processing operations. Costs reflect condemnation and physical losses.

Source: Data collected under cooperative agreements between the Georgia, Missouri, and Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Stations and the Economic Research Service.

CHANGES IN REGIONAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN EGG AND POULTRY SUPPLIES, 1955-75

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ABSTRACT: Substantial changes in both total production and regional distribution of poultry and egg products have occurred in the last two decades. Different rates of regional growth in further-processed product production have also occurred. At the same time, changing distributions of consuming populations, by regions, have affected total needs. Consequently, there have been major regional changes in surplus-deficit positions as well as interregional product movements. These have had varying effects on aggregate long-distance transportation costs for eggs and poultry.

KEYWORDS: Eggs, chickens, turkeys, product form, consumption, interregional movements.

Over the last two decades, the shares of the total U.S. egg supply coming from the South Atlantic, South Central, Pacific, and New England regions have increased whle the shares of other regions have generally declined. For turkeys, the shares of only the West North Central, South Atlantic, South Central, and Mountain regions have remained steady or increased. For young chickens, the share of the South Atlantic region remained steady, while that of the South Central region increased, For mature chickens, only the shares of the South Atlantic and South Central regions consistently increased.

During the same period, shares of total U.S. population in the South Atlantic and Pacific regions increased. The share of the South Central region remained steady with the shares of other regions declining. These relative shifts in supplies and population affected the pattern of and need for interregional movements of egg and poultry products.

But since eggs and poultry are not homogeneous products, interregional movements also occur for reasons other than balancing out total regional surplus-deficit positions. One such reason is the different patterns of regional production of shell eggs and ready-to-cook poultry versus the processed forms. Another is to meet the needs for different qualities of eggs or sizes of poultry. Other movements also occur for institutional reasons.

A region may be surplus in a product but may not be able to supply all it needs because of the movement of its product to other regions. Consequently, for this analysis, surplus does not necessarily indicate self-sufficiency.

The following summaries indicate major changes in regional self-sufficiency status sincethe mid-1950's.

Eggs

For shell eggs, the South Atlantic, South Central, Pacific, and New England regions became essentially self-sufficient. The Middle Atlantic, East North Central, West North Central, and Mountain regions became somewhat more dependent on outside supplies. For the latter two regions, a slight reversal of this trend may now be occurring.

For processed eggs, only the West North Central region is surplus, but by a declining amount. Particularly in the last decade, all other regions have tended to produce a larger share of their needs.

Shifts in surplus-deficit positions of various regions resulted in only a slight reduction in aggregate (deflated) long-distance transportation costs on shell eggs (table 1), but a one-third reduction in such costs occurred on processed eggs.

Table 1—Eggs: Measures of the degree of self-sufficiency, by regions, selected years

Year and measure	New England	Middle Atlantic	East North Central	West North Central	South Atlantic	South Central	Mountain	Pacific
Total regional supply as percent of total regional consumption[1]								
1955	75	71	97	318	59	73	73	94
1960	72	65	80	296	81	83	63	105
1965	77	60	77	230	107	110	52	117
1970	80	53	73	169	129	125	54	125
1975	96	55	73	160	126	116	58	129
Shell eggs: regional supply as percent of regional consumption[2]								
1955	81	76	98	277	63	78	77	100
1960	79	70	90	244	87	89	67	113
1965	84	64	78	179	112	117	56	123
1970	88	55	73	123	136	130	59	131
1975	104	53	72	137	134	120	64	129
Processed eggs: regional production[3] as percent of regional consumption								
1955	3	7	81	833	18	16	20	11
1960	5	8	79	844	21	19	13	26
1965	9	13	74	726	56	44	8	57
1970	21	38	67	548	71	82	12	79
1975	31	74	82	343	69	86	18	130
Shell eggs: percent of regional consumption met from regional supplies[4]								
1955	76	76	91	94	62	76	77	96
1960	74	70	85	94	86	88	67	99
1965	79	64	77	92	100	94	56	99
1970	83	55	69	74	100	93	59	99
1975	96	53	69	77	100	93	64	99
Processed eggs: percent of regional consumption met from regional supplies[4]								
1955	3	7	46	100	18	16	20	11
1960	5	8	45	100	21	19	13	26
1965	9	13	41	100	56	44	8	57
1970	21	38	43	100	71	82	12	79
1975	31	74	65	100	69	86	18	100

[1] Derived from total surplus-deficit series for all eggs. [2] Does not reflect interregional movements. [3] Includes production from regional supply as well as production from receipts from other regions. [4] The quantity of shipments to other regions is removed from regional supply.

Turkeys

For ready-to-cook turkeys, the New England, Middle Atlantic, and East North Central regions became more deficit. The South Atlantic and South Central regions became surplus and essentially self-sufficient. The West North Central and Pacific regions remained surplus, but by less, and the Mountain region's surplus grew. The latter two regions are essentially self-sufficient on most sizes of turkeys.

For further-processed turkeys, the West North Central region remained, and the South Atlantic and Pacific regions became surplus and self-sufficient. Other regions remained deficit and dependent on outside supplies to varying degrees.

The preceding shifts in surplus-deficit positions of various regions did not change aggregate (deflated) long-distance transportation costs on ready-to-cook turkeys much (table 2). But such costs on further-processed turkeys declined about a fourth.

Young Chickens

For ready-to-cook young chickens, only the South Atlantic and South Central regions are surplus and self-sufficient. Other regions have generally become more dependent on outside supplies.

For further-processed young chickens, the South Atlantic and South Central regions are surplus and self-sufficient. The Middle Atlantic region became surplus on production, but does not supply all its needs due to movements to other regions.

The preceding shifts in surplus-deficit positions resulted in an increase of a tenth in aggregate (deflated) long-distance transportation costs on ready-to-cook young chickens (table 3). But, such costs on the further-processed form declined about a fifth.

Table 2—Turkeys: Measures of the degree of self-sufficiency, by regions, selected years

Year and measure	New England	Middle Atlantic	East North Central	West North Central	South Atlantic	South Central	Mountain	Pacific
Total regional supply as percent of regional consumption[1]								
1955	38	27	66	308	95	60	179	203
1960	18	17	72	399	58	66	164	187
1965	11	14	74	397	83	84	142	145
1970	6	13	63	360	113	100	160	128
1975	3	15	59	384	126	88	156	112
Ready-to-cook: regional supply as percent of regional consumption[2]								
1955	40	28	68	269	101	63	189	213
1960	19	17	72	381	59	72	183	190
1965	13	14	79	401	79	93	172	142
1970	6	13	61	297	118	117	208	143
1975	4	17	60	236	149	129	265	121
Further-processed: regional production[3] as percent of regional consumption								
1955	4	4	29	1,004	0	0	0	28
1960	10	54	69	557	48	12	0	157
1965	4	87	51	380	99	48	4	158
1970	17	44	68	507	100	60	3	93
1975	2	41	58	522	104	50	55	112
Ready-to-cook: percent of regional consumption met from regional supplies[4]								
1955	40	28	61	100	78	63	100	94
1960	19	17	66	100	48	72	96	97
1965	13	14	73	100	65	93	94	97
1970	6	13	56	100	100	93	94	93
1975	4	17	52	100	100	90	95	92
Further-processed: percent of regional consumption met from regional supplies[4]								
1955	4	4	29	100	0	0	0	28
1960	10	17	69	100	48	12	0	100
1965	4	14	51	100	91	48	4	100
1970	6	13	68	100	95	60	3	93
1975	2	13	58	100	100	50	55	100

[1] Derived from total surplus-deficit series for all turkeys. [2] Does not reflect interregional movements. [3] Includes production from regional supplies as well as production from receipts from other regions. [4] The quantity of shipments to other regions is removed from regional supply.

Mature Chickens

For ready-to-cook mature chickens, the South Atlantic and South Central regions became more surplus and self-sufficient. The East and West North Central and Pacific regions went from surplus to deficit.

For further-processed mature chickens, only the West North Central and South Atlantic regions remained surplus, with the latter the only self-sufficient region. Some other regions became more self-sufficient.

The preceding shifts in surplus-deficit positions (table 4) resulted in almost a doubling of aggregate (deflated) long-distance transportation costs on ready-to-cook mature chickens. But such costs declined about a quarter on the further-processed form.

Table 3–Young chickens: Measures of the degree of self-sufficiency, by regions, selected years

Year and measure	New England	Middle Atlantic	East North Central	West North Central	South Atlantic	South Central	Mountain	Pacific
Total regional supply as percent of total regional consumption[1]								
1955	151	28	36	39	302	155	14	56
1960	99	18	23	30	300	213	11	41
1965	75	13	11	23	287	271	8	35
1970	56	12	7	18	278	282	7	35
1975	53	14	7	19	261	279	0	37
Ready-to-cook: regional supply as percent of total regional consumption[2]								
1955	152	28	36	39	302	155	14	57
1960	101	18	23	30	302	214	11	42
1965	76	13	11	23	289	263	9	34
1970	56	12	7	18	282	287	7	35
1975	54	14	7	19	266	285	0	37
Further-processed: regional production[3] as percent of regional consumption								
1955	23	6	5	112	389	185	0	10
1960	41	16	20	290	233	182	0	18
1965	42	38	45	252	178	196	0	24
1970	43	90	16	135	199	195	2	45
1975	41	135	35	64	177	180	4	36
Ready-to-cook: percent of regional consumption met from regional supplies[4]								
1955	100	28	36	39	100	100	14	57
1960	64	18	23	30	100	100	11	42
1965	46	13	11	23	100	100	9	34
1970	38	12	7	18	100	100	7	35
1975	38	14	7	19	100	100	0	37
Further-processed: percent of regional consumption met from regional supplies[4]								
1955	23	6	5	39	100	100	0	10
1960	41	16	20	30	100	100	0	18
1965	42	13	11	23	100	100	0	24
1970	43	12	7	18	100	100	2	35
1975	41	16	8	22	100	100	0	36

[1] Derived from total surplus-deficit series for all young chickens. [2] Does not reflect interregional movements. [3] Includes production from regional supplies as well as production from receipts from other regions. [4] The quantity of shipments to other regions is removed from regional supply.

Table 4—Mature chickens: Measures of the degree of self-sufficiency, by regions, selected years

Year and measure	New England	Middle Atlantic	East North Central	West North Central	South Atlantic	South Central	Mountain	Pacific
Total regional supply as percent of regional consumption[1]								
1955	123	60	103	315	71	68	72	73
1960	121	51	75	297	106	95	58	98
1965	104	49	62	193	146	136	42	92
1970	85	45	65	160	159	158	40	80
1975	122	40	63	163	154	163	45	62
Ready-to-cook: regional supply as percent of regional consumption[2]								
1955	142	66	113	218	78	79	84	82
1960	160	57	79	164	107	106	77	123
1965	176	49	62	52	164	214	73	126
1970	156	45	66	61	164	305	90	138
1975	253	40	72	54	140	277	96	74
Further-processed: regional production[3] as percent of regional consumption								
1955	2	15	34	948	28	0	0	10
1960	4	35	64	697	103	12	0	26
1965	8	64	81	509	123	34	1	47
1970	31	63	64	479	154	45	1	36
1975	7	50	54	472	165	63	(5)	52
Ready-to-cook: percent of regional consumption met from regional supplies[4]								
1955	100	66	100	100	78	79	84	82
1960	100	57	79	100	100	100	77	100
1965	100	49	62	52	100	100	73	100
1970	100	45	66	61	100	100	90	100
1975	100	40	72	54	100	100	96	74
Further-processed: percent of regional consumption met from regional supplies[4]								
1955	2	15	34	100	28	0	0	10
1960	4	35	64	100	100	12	0	26
1965	8	49	62	57	100	34	1	47
1970	31	44	64	47	100	45	1	36
1975	7	39	54	47	100	63	(5)	52

[1] Derived from total surplus-deficit series for all mature chickens. [2] Does not reflect interregional movements. [3] Includes production from regional supplies as well as production from receipts from other regions. [4] The quantity of shipments to other regions is removed from regional supply. [5] Less than ½ to 1 percent.

Table 18—Selected poultry and egg statistics*

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 1, 5-6.—Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, 50 States														
Average for the month														
Number of layers on farms														
1974	Mil.	296	296	294	290	285	281	280	278	279	281	284	285	286
1975	Mil.	285	282	280	276	272	271	270	271	274	277	279	280	276
1976	Mil.	280	280	277	273	270	269	268						
Eggs laid per 100 layers														
1974	No.	1,920	1,759	1,977	1,932	2,007	1,938	1,975	1,955	1,879	1,930	1,870	1,937	231
1975	No.	1,953	1,771	1,972	1,922	1,991	1,933	1,995	1,991	1,914	1,966	1,904	1,968	233
1976	No.	1,970	1,855	2,004	1,955	2,020	1,960	2,014						
Total monthly egg production														
1974	Mil. cs.	15.8	14.5	16.1	15.5	15.9	15.1	15.3	15.1	14.5	15.1	14.7	15.4	183.1
1975	Mil. cs.	15.4	13.9	15.3	14.7	15.1	14.5	15.0	15.0	14.6	15.1	14.8	15.3	178.7
1976	Mil. cs.	15.3	14.4	15.4	14.8	15.1	14.6	15.0						
First of month														
Number of layers on farms														
1974	Mil.	297	296	296	292	287	283	280	279	278	280	282	285	
1975	Mil.	286	284	281	278	274	271	270	270	273	276	278	280	
1976	Mil.	279	280	279	275	270	270	268	268					
Eggs laid per 100 layers														
1974	No.	61.6	62.3	63.4	64.1	64.7	64.8	64.3	63.1	63.0	62.2	62.3	62.3	
1975	No.	62.6	63.2	63.3	64.0	64.1	64.3	64.5	64.1	64.3	63.3	63.3	63.6	
1976	No.	63.4	63.8	64.2	65.1	65.1	65.1	65.5	64.4					
Daily rate of egg production														
1974	Mil.	183	184	187	187	186	183	180	176	175	174	176	178	
1975	Mil.	179	179	178	178	175	174	174	173	175	175	176	178	
1976	Mil.	177	179	179	179	176	176	175	173					
Tables 7-9.—Factors in monthly supply of shell eggs, 50 States														
Eggs produced on farms														
1974	1,000 cs.	15,808	14,453	16,139	15,544	15,883	15,150	15,333	15,117	14,547	15,061	14,736	15,358	183,129
1975	1,000 cs.	15,444	13,892	15,317	14,725	15,069	14,528	14,964	15,006	14,589	15,133	14,758	15,300	178,725
1976	1,000 cs.	15,328	14,419	15,447	14,814	15,144	14,622	14,981						
Storage movement of shell eggs														
1974	1,000 cs.	-11	19	17	7	20	3	6	-17	-8	3	-21	-16	2
1975	1,000 cs.	-4	16	-16	-6	42	14	2	-4	-8	-17	-15	-18	-14
1976	1,000 cs.	-9	8	5	0	-4	3	35						
Eggs broken commercially														
1974	1,000 cs.	1,435	1,502	1,821	1,862	2,146	2,109	2,071	1,934	1,642	1,749	1,462	1,242	20,975
1975	1,000 cs.	1,441	1,218	1,215	1,455	1,651	1,898	1,957	1,738	1,698	1,702	1,234	1,229	18,436
1976	1,000 cs.	1,257	1,252	1,722	1,690	1,571	1,866							
Eggs used for hatching														
1974	1,000 cs.	1,001	1,175	1,178	1,199	1,095	987	957	867	866	896	976	989	12,186
1975	1,000 cs.	933	1,096	1,093	1,128	1,069	1,046	1,027	953	965	959	1,025	1,063	12,357
1976	1,000 cs.	1,040	1,213	1,221	1,105	1,184	1,153							
Balance														
1974	1,000 cs.	13,383	11,757	13,123	12,476	12,622	12,051	12,299	12,333	12,047	12,413	12,319	13,143	149,966
1975	1,000 cs.	13,074	11,562	13,025	12,148	12,307	11,570	11,978	12,319	11,934	12,489	12,514	13,026	147,946
1976	1,000 cs.	13,040	11,946	12,499	12,019	12,393	11,600							
Tables 13-14.—Commercial production of poultry and red meat, 48 States														
Chicken and turkey meat, Ready-to-cook weight[1]														
1974	Mil. lb.	933	766	806	832	944	920	1,002	1,023	898	1,015	800	768	10,707
1975	Mil. lb.	781	676	736	825	831	884	967	942	978	1,067	834	914	10,434
1976	Mil. lb.	857	758	912	897	910	1,077							
Total red meat, carcass weight[1]														
1974	Mil. lb.	3,251	2,661	3,098	3,149	3,266	2,945	3,026	3,132	3,074	3,471	3,155	3,088	37,323
1975	Mil. lb.	3,315	2,880	2,959	3,089	2,873	2,832	2,842	2,860	3,068	3,339	2,978	3,159	36,214
1976	Mil. lb.	3,266	2,907	3,513	3,111	2,924	3,150							
Table 25.—Chicken certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weight														
Young														
1974	Mil. lb.	713.1	601.2	641.9	672.4	745.0	687.2	720.1	713.8	621.1	686.9	524.5	589.6	7,917
1975	Mil. lb.	646.2	570.2	616.6	688.3	690.1	683.1	714.2	680.5	684.9	739.8	560.7	691.4	7,966
1976	Mil. lb.	712.3	632.3	771.9	742.5	745.4	825.9							
Mature														
1974	Mil. lb.	49.2	44.6	51.0	50.8	53.0	45.7	40.6	45.1	35.2	41.6	40.1	38.1	535
1975	Mil. lb.	47.8	39.1	43.6	44.6	37.0	39.0	34.5	34.0	38.7	42.2	31.7	40.5	473
1976	Mil. lb.	44.1	42.2	46.4	48.9	34.4	41.1							

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 18—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 25.—Chicken certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights—Continued														
Total														
1974	Mil. lb.	762.3	645.8	692.9	723.3	798.0	732.9	760.7	758.9	656.2	728.6	564.6	627.7	8,452
1975	Mil. lb.	694.0	609.4	660.2	732.9	727.0	722.1	748.7	714.6	723.5	782.0	592.4	732.0	8,439
1976	Mil. lb.	756.4	674.4	818.3	791.4	779.8	867.0							
Table 26.—Turkey certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights														
Fryer-roasters														
1974	Mil. lb.	8.9	9.1	8.9	8.3	10.6	11.1	10.0	9.7	5.9	8.0	5.4	3.9	100
1975	Mil. lb.	7.0	6.9	7.5	7.7	6.9	7.2	8.3	7.0	6.8	8.8	8.2	7.0	89
1976	Mil. lb.	6.5	6.4	8.1	6.9	7.5	9.2							
Young turkeys														
1974	Mil. lb.	87.3	49.4	48.6	69.0	100.6	144.9	199.2	225.8	213.3	252.4	209.7	115.8	1,716
1975	Mil. lb.	56.8	39.9	45.8	60.5	73.6	128.3	181.3	194.7	221.1	248.3	211.9	150.1	1,612
1976	Mil. lb.	68.9	54.5	58.8	72.1	98.3	170.0							
Old turkeys														
1974	Mil. lb.	1.1	1.3	1.4	2.8	2.1	3.8	3.8	1.7	.9	.6	.1	.3	20
1975	Mil. lb.	1.1	.3	1.2	.6	1.5	2.9	3.7	1.6	1.0	.4	.1	.3	15
1976	Mil. lb.	.8	.8	1.8	.9	.7	3.1							
Total turkeys														
1974	Mil. lb.	97.3	59.8	58.9	80.1	113.2	159.7	213.1	237.2	220.2	261.1	215.2	119.9	1,836
1975	Mil. lb.	64.9	47.1	54.4	68.7	81.9	138.4	193.2	203.3	229.0	257.5	220.2	157.5	1,716
1976	Mil. lb.	76.3	61.7	68.6	79.9	106.5	182.2							
Table 27.—Ducks, and total poultry certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights														
Ducks														
1974	Mil. lb.	3.0	2.3	2.5	4.4	5.5	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.0	5.1	3.5	3.2	51
1975	Mil. lb.	2.5	2.2	2.8	4.7	5.0	5.8	5.3	4.6	4.8	4.7	3.7	3.9	50
1976	Mil. lb.	3.2	2.7	3.4	4.7	5.2	6.4							
Total poultry														
1974	Mil. lb.	862.8	708.0	754.4	807.8	916.9	898.5	979.8	1,001.8	881.6	996.1	785.1	751.2	10,344
1975	Mil. lb.	761.6	658.7	717.6	806.5	814.1	866.5	947.5	922.7	957.5	1,045.6	817.7	893.5	10,210
1976	Mil. lb.	836.0	739.0	890.4	876.1	891.7	1,055.8							
Table 28.—Chicken and turkey inspected for further processing in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights														
Chicken														
Young														
1974	Mil. lb.	45.1	41.7	46.8	45.8	44.0	38.3	36.3	40.7	39.3	41.9	42.7	33.3	496
1975	Mil. lb.	39.6	35.6	38.4	41.9	40.9	47.3	48.2	48.0	50.3	55.3	45.4	49.7	541
1976	Mil. lb.	51.8	47.5	55.6	53.6	52.2	61.0							
Mature														
1974	Mil. lb.	45.8	40.4	40.6	38.5	35.8	27.2	24.7	34.5	34.0	40.7	33.1	28.0	423
1975	Mil. lb.	31.2	24.4	25.6	29.1	21.8	28.3	25.5	27.7	31.9	38.3	34.1	38.2	356
1976	Mil. lb.	43.2	39.6	44.7	40.0	36.8	32.3							
Total														
1974	Mil. lb.	90.9	82.1	87.4	84.3	79.7	65.5	61.1	75.1	73.3	82.5	75.8	61.3	919
1975	Mil. lb.	70.8	60.0	64.0	71.0	62.7	75.6	73.8	75.7	82.2	93.7	79.6	87.9	897
1976	Mil. lb.	95.0	87.1	100.3	93.6	89.0	93.3							
Turkey														
1974	Mil. lb.	54.9	41.2	44.6	47.9	60.5	72.4	90.8	110.0	101.4	117.6	88.1	66.9	896
1975	Mil. lb.	45.8	40.4	44.7	49.1	45.3	69.1	99.1	107.4	111.8	129.1	98.9	67.2	908
1976	Mil. lb.	47.9	44.4	54.5	49.1	69.0	97.9							
Table 32.—Per capita consumption of shell eggs														
Shell equivalent:														
1974	No.	22.8	19.9	22.3	21.0	21.3	20.4	20.8	21.0	20.4	21.0	20.7	22.2	254
1975	do.	22.0	19.4	21.9	20.4	20.6	19.2	20.1	20.6	19.8	20.8	20.8	21.6	247
1976	do.	21.8	19.7	20.6	19.7	20.5	19.2							
Tables 34-41.—Egg prices: Monthly average price per dozen for shell eggs														
United States, received by farmers[3]														
1974	Cents	66.6	63.9	56.7	50.1	42.2	39.8	43.8	47.8	54.8	54.9	55.4	59.5	53.0
1975	do.	57.2	54.1	54.1	47.4	47.1	45.6	46.5	50.8	55.8	52.9	58.2	64.1	52.8
1976	do.	62.2	59.8	54.1	53.4	55.5	53.8	55.5						
Grade A large eggs in retail stores[4, 5]														
1974	do.	93.0	94.5	85.6	78.1	64.9	62.5	62.3	71.1	79.0	83.9	81.0	84.1	78.3
1975	do.	84.2	83.9	74.9	77.2	70.6	66.9	70.6	73.7	79.9	77.7	78.1	86.1	77.0
1976	do.	89.1	90.1	78.2	77.6	75.2	74.4	80.0						

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 18--Selected poultry and egg statistics*--Continued

Item	Data in--	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 34-41.--Monthly average price per dozen shell eggs--Continued														
Iowa, received by farmers														
Buyer quality and volume incentive														
Large														
1974	Cents	63.16	58.33	50.90	42.52	31.57	31.08	36.27	42.45	49.58	49.81	49.85	54.69	46.68
1975	do.	50.25	43.34	45.26	36.09	36.86	36.90	39.27	44.64	49.43	45.12	51.05	58.52	44.73
1976	do.	56.21	50.26	44.91	44.20	45.80	45.64							
Medium														
1974	do.	57.99	51.32	43.98	33.12	22.59	20.61	27.86	33.59	43.82	45.14	43.38	49.05	39.37
1975	do.	44.32	37.21	37.38	30.48	26.26	25.90	27.89	34.02	39.31	38.55	42.95	53.25	36.46
1976	do.	48.93	43.63	34.78	35.43	39.42	37.52							
Price to volume buyers*														
14 Metro areas:														
Large														
1974	do.	77.46	72.17	64.46	58.27	49.52	48.72	53.89	60.54	67.23	66.01	65.70	71.42	62.85
1975	do.	67.82	62.49	64.24	55.78	55.37	54.88	56.76	62.28	66.85	62.37	69.08	75.81	62.81
1976	do.	73.30	67.42	62.40	62.05	63.27	62.30	67.38						
Los Angeles, Grade AA:														
Large														
1974	do.	75.73	71.34	61.24	56.21	54.50	51.60	55.86	60.55	67.60	64.12	64.30	70.07	62.76
1975	do.	68.32	68.71	68.55	58.74	60.26	58.50	55.73	61.64	66.78	63.74	70.00	75.48	64.70
1976	do.	75.33	69.00	66.96	66.36	65.75	66.04	69.86						
Medium														
1974	do.	73.73	67.08	57.19	52.50	45.77	44.50	47.59	52.77	62.15	60.26	63.20	69.07	57.98
1975	do.	67.32	67.71	65.67	53.85	54.55	50.50	49.27	52.74	59.78	60.93	69.00	74.48	60.48
1976	do.	74.33	66.56	62.92	62.91	62.50	60.86	59.71						
New York, wholesale prices, white														
Large, 75 percent A														
1974	do.	74.00	68.29	60.20	52.08	42.71	42.83	48.96	55.84	63.07	61.69	61.21	67.26	58.18
1975	do.	62.18	55.44	59.24	50.17	49.26	50.55	52.59	58.21	61.56	56.65	65.67	71.85	57.78
1976	do.	68.44	60.55	56.78	55.44	58.38	58.83	63.06						
Medium														
1974	do.	72.00	62.42	55.67	44.03	34.27	32.33	41.57	47.84	58.09	58.40	56.89	64.42	52.33
1975	do.	57.75	50.58	53.24	46.18	40.76	41.43	42.58	48.28	53.07	53.61	59.42	70.50	51.45
1976	do.	64.22	57.94	49.56	49.50	53.88	50.94	55.39						
Midwest, paid delivered*														
Large														
1974	do.	76.50	71.25	63.50	56.25	47.00	47.00	51.12	58.10	66.00	65.20	64.13	70.63	61.39
1975	do.	66.20	59.62	61.38	53.25	53.20	52.75	55.20	60.50	65.25	60.90	67.75	74.50	60.88
1976	do.	72.75	66.25	60.75	59.85	62.31	61.12	65.85						
Medium														
1974	do.	74.10	64.38	58.00	48.25	38.60	36.50	43.12	48.70	60.50	62.30	60.25	67.25	55.16
1975	do.	62.00	54.88	55.50	49.50	45.20	44.25	45.60	50.50	56.38	56.60	61.00	72.50	54.49
1976	do.	68.30	62.62	53.00	52.60	56.88	53.94	56.65						
Table 42.--Egg prices: Monthly average price per pound for frozen egg products														
New York and Philadelphia														
Frozen egg														
Whole egg, light colored														
1974	Cents	47.38	50.34	46.08	35.94	33.83	32.23	33.72	39.39	43.53	39.74	36.78	37.64	39.72
1975	do.	36.06	33.81	32.48	32.72	37.94	37.59	38.38	39.80	42.31	41.39	42.16	41.79	38.04
1976	do.	41.54	42.75	42.36	40.59	41.65	42.78	43.94						
White														
1974	do.	16.41	17.75	16.50	15.86	15.89	16.44	16.41	19.44	22.72	20.47	17.94	18.22	17.84
1975	do.	17.57	16.97	16.41	16.38	18.75	20.44	21.38	22.27	23.11	22.69	22.94	22.92	20.15
1976	do.	22.39	22.59	22.64	22.15	23.98	25.35	26.53						
Yolks, light colored, sugared,														
43 percent solids														
1974	do.	87.28	89.72	85.13	68.89	60.22	60.39	64.16	72.89	78.94	77.03	73.90	72.61	74.26
1975	do.	69.39	64.69	60.69	57.69	60.58	61.75	62.69	64.72	67.69	67.42	67.94	68.11	64.45
1976	do.	67.50	67.78	67.34	65.35	66.33	67.30	69.11						
Tables 44-47.--Average broiler prices per pound														
Liveweight														
United States, at farm														
1974	Cents	21.5	23.4	22.2	21.0	20.5	19.0	20.5	20.9	22.8	22.8	24.2	22.6	21.8
1975	do.	23.8	24.3	23.5	23.2	24.6	27.6	29.7	29.1	29.6	28.5	27.0	24.0	26.2
1976	do.	24.3	25.2	24.4	23.7	24.7	24.3	25.4						

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 18—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 44-47.—Average broiler prices per pound—Continued														
Broilers, weighted average, delivered to major areas[5]														
9-City average[7]														
1974	Cents	39.69	39.41	38.76	36.30	35.64	34.05	36.41	36.84	39.89	39.32	41.94	40.71	38.25
1975	do.	41.64	41.37	40.72	40.06	42.88	48.05	51.20	49.96	49.66	47.73	45.82	41.79	45.07
1976	do.	41.89	42.68	41.93	41.00	42.07	42.11	43.16						
Chicago														
1974	do.	39.3	39.8	38.5	36.4	35.5	33.8	36.3	36.7	39.8	39.0	41.8	40.2	38.1
1975	do.	42.8	40.9	40.2	39.8	42.3	46.9	50.9	49.6	49.6	47.2	45.6	41.7	44.8
1976	do.	41.7	42.6	41.6	40.9	42.0	41.7	43.3						
New York														
1974	do.	38.5	38.5	37.6	33.6	34.8	33.9	35.7	36.2	39.5	39.3	41.4	39.8	37.4
1975	do.	41.6	41.3	40.3	39.7	42.0	47.2	51.4	49.6	49.7	47.6	45.2	40.6	44.7
1976	do.	41.6	41.9	41.3	40.8	41.8	41.6	42.8						
Los Angeles														
1974	do.	41.2	41.5	40.5	38.1	36.6	34.8	38.0	38.1	40.8	40.2	42.8	41.0	39.5
1975	do.	43.4	42.5	42.0	42.0	44.2	48.0	52.2	51.0	50.9	48.9	47.2	43.3	46.3
1976	do.	43.4	44.4	43.7	42.2	43.0	42.6	44.4						
Frying chicken in retail stores[4]														
1974	do.	59.2	58.7	57.5	55.6	52.2	51.2	51.8	53.5	57.0	56.2	58.2	60.4	56.0
1975	do.	59.3	58.6	58.8	57.6	57.9	61.5	68.3	68.6	69.9	66.9	66.5	65.5	63.3
1976	do.	63.6	61.4	60.8	60.7	59.4	62.0	62.6						
Chicken breasts, in retail stores[4]														
1974	do.	100.1	100.4	99.9	98.0	95.8	94.4	94.6	97.3	99.3	99.0	100.5	102.5	98.5
1975	do.	102.3	103.4	102.9	101.3	103.0	107.2	116.7	117.1	118.0	116.1	115.8	115.3	109.9
1976	do.	112.3	111.8	109.3	109.6	110.0	111.8	113.7						
Tables 50-54.—Average turkey prices per pound														
Liveweight[1]														
U.S., at farm														
1974	Cents	34.8	32.6	32.3	27.7	24.6	23.6	23.0	27.1	27.3	28.0	30.8	33.4	28.8
1975	do.	32.4	31.2	30.7	29.4	31.1	32.7	34.4	35.7	36.3	36.4	36.7	36.2	33.6
1976	do.	33.6	32.1	32.5	31.6	32.0	31.4	31.2						
Turkeys in retail stores[4]														
1974	do.	85.4	80.4	79.6	75.8	70.5	68.1	65.9	66.0	69.8	71.2	71.0	68.9	72.7
1975	do.	69.2	71.6	70.4	69.0	69.1	70.9	71.4	74.5	75.5	76.7	77.4	75.8	72.6
1976	do.	76.6	75.0	73.5	74.4	74.1	74.7	73.9						
Wholesale frozen (average f.o.b. or equivalent)														
New York:														
Young hens, 8-16 pounds														
1974	do.	48.6	51.3	50.7	42.2	39.7	37.4	39.7	49.6	47.0	48.2	53.6	57.9	47.2
1975	do.	51.6	46.9	47.3	48.3	51.6	53.4	56.0	58.0	57.2	58.1	57.3	52.6	53.2
1976	do.	47.1	49.7	51.7	48.2	48.9	47.6	49.5						
Young toms, 14-20 pounds														
1974	do.	48.2	48.2	46.7	39.4	38.4	34.5	37.0	43.1	42.6	45.7	50.6	52.8	43.9
1975	do.	49.1	46.0	43.7	43.3	46.9	49.6	52.7	56.2	57.0	57.2	56.7	54.4	51.8
1976	do.	46.8	46.1	49.8	49.4	50.8	47.8	48.5						
Paid at seller's dock, frozen														
New York														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1974	do.	58.6	55.4	55.7	47.5	44.1	41.3	41.5	52.7	52.1	52.3	57.2	61.9	51.7
1975	do.	57.5	50.2	57.2	52.3	55.3	57.0	59.3	61.2	61.2	61.2	61.2	57.9	57.0
1976	do.	51.8	51.8	55.3	52.8	52.9	51.4	52.2						
Toms, heaviest weights quoted														
1974	do.	60.7	54.2	51.9	45.3	48.4	52.5	52.6	55.8	55.7	54.4	56.3	58.8	53.9
1975	do.	59.0	56.7	55.0	52.0	52.6	56.5	59.5	61.8	64.3	66.8	69.9	70.0	60.3
1976	do.	69.0	69.0	69.9	70.0	70.6	71.0	71.0						
Chicago														
Hens, 12-14 pounds														
1974	do.	51.1	51.8	52.1	46.4	43.0	40.1	41.0	50.8	50.5	50.6	54.9	60.6	49.4
1975	do.	58.7	52.2	50.5	50.6	53.3	54.7	57.1	58.8	58.5	59.3	60.5	57.0	55.9
1976	do.	51.2	50.0	53.5	51.1	50.8	50.2	48.6						
Toms, heaviest weights quoted														
1974	do.	63.2	57.9	54.9	43.7	46.0	50.3	50.7	54.8	56.3	55.4	55.5	57.0	53.8
1975	do.	57.0	56.7	55.2	55.0	55.0	56.0	57.0	60.3	62.1	65.1	67.2	68.0	59.6
1976	do.	68.0	68.0	67.8	68.4	69.4	70.0	68.0						
Tables 57-60.—Prices paid for poults, poultry feed, and feed ingredients; and product-feed price ratios														
All poults each														
1974	Cents	64.8	65.1	67.0	68.3	67.9	69.0	68.4	67.4	67.3	67.4	67.2	68.8	67.4
1975	do.	68.7	69.5	70.1	70.0	70.0	71.0	73.9	70.6	70.4	68.6	67.6	68.8	69.9
1976	do.	68.9	69.6	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.2	71.3						

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 18—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 57-60.—Price paid for poults, poultry feed, and feed ingredients; and product-feed price ratios—Continued														
Feed per ton														
Laying feed														
1974	Dollars	152	153	151	144	137	137	141	168	163	168	167	164	154
1975	do.	160	151	143	146	145	144	145	150	149	148	143	143	147
1976	do.	143	143	145	144	146	156	162						
Broiler grower feed														
1974	do.	170	169	165	156	151	151	157	180	176	185	183	180	169
1975	do.	176	167	161	164	161	162	161	163	164	164	158	160	163
1976	do.	158	160	160	159	161	172	181						
Turkey grower feed														
1974	do.	172	172	168	162	156	153	158	188	183	189	187	184	173
1975	do.	178	168	161	165	164	165	163	168	170	170	164	165	167
1976	do.	165	165	165	162	165	178	187						
Corn, Chicago No. 2 yellow (per bushel)														
1974	Cents	293	310	301	246	269	292	328	365	353	385	349	355	321
1975	do.	309	300	296	304	288	291	286	317	301	276	264	259	291
1976	do.	267	271	269	269	286	302	298						
Soybean meal, 44 percent, Decatur (per ton, bulk)														
1974	Dollars	172	160	147	117	109	100	138	156	138	168	141	143	141
1975	do.	129	117	118	122	118	121	124	134	134	126	120	125	124
1976	do.	128	133	128	127	152	188	194						
Product-feed price ratios														
Broiler[10]														
1974	Pounds	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.6
1975	do.	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.8	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.0	3.2
1976	do.	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.8						
Turkey[11]														
1974	do.	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.4	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.6	3.2
1975	do.	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.0
1976	do.	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.5	3.3						
Egg[12]														
1974	do.	8.8	8.4	7.5	7.0	6.2	5.8	6.2	5.7	6.7	6.5	6.6	7.2	6.9
1975	do.	7.2	7.2	7.6	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.4	6.8	7.5	7.1	8.1	9.0	7.2
1976	do.	8.7	8.4	7.5	7.4	7.6	6.9	6.9						
Tables 61-62.—Chicks hatched by types and pullet chicks placed														
Chicks hatched														
Broiler-type														
1974	Mil.	277.5	254.2	296.5	288.9	297.5	275.9	251.1	244.1	220.8	217.1	228.4	252.5	3,104.4
1975	Mil.	253.7	239.0	278.1	275.3	285.1	274.7	270.8	268.3	247.6	249.9	254.6	271.9	3,169.1
1976	Mil.	278.1	267.9	309.1	309.5	319.5	307.7							
Egg-type														
1974	Mil.	35.1	37.7	46.2	54.6	52.1	43.4	36.7	34.9	32.1	35.5	33.0	32.2	473.4
1975	Mil.	34.8	36.6	45.4	47.4	48.0	40.9	38.1	34.9	33.9	34.8	28.4	30.7	453.8
1976	Mil.	35.7	39.2	49.1	50.8	47.6	41.9	38.0						
Pullet chicks placed domestically for broiler hatchery supply flocks[13]														
Total														
1974	Thou.	2,489	2,474	2,906	2,795	2,754	2,525	2,259	2,288	2,180	2,141	2,171	2,302	29,264
1975	Thou.	2,211	2,134	2,754	2,492	2,874	2,459	2,466	2,645	2,647	2,449	2,306	2,379	29,816
1976	Thou.	2,423	2,556	2,907	3,104	3,164	2,648	2,797						
Cumulation relevant to breeder flock[14]														
1974	Thou.	20,769	20,893	21,232	21,495	22,246	21,496	20,831	20,362	20,309	20,720	20,927	21,028	
1975	Thou.	20,632	20,585	20,490	20,161	19,828	19,093	18,600	18,057	17,666	18,161	18,365	19,079	
1976	Thou.	19,397	19,692	20,035	20,471	20,786	20,338	20,225	19,774	19,871	20,312	20,771	21,288	
1977	Thou.	21,487	21,978											
Table 63.—Poults hatched by breeds														
Poults hatched														
Light breeds														
1974	Thou.	1,324	1,193	1,502	1,478	1,381	1,381	1,096	779	515	1,185	1,302	1,284	14,420
1975	Thou.	1,202	1,367	1,406	1,657	1,526	1,400	1,524	1,319	747	1,008	1,244	1,518	15,918
1976	Thou.	1,794	1,438	1,909	1,978	1,804	1,824	1,880						
Total heavy breeds														
1974	Thou.	9,572	12,794	17,938	19,172	18,687	15,718	11,858	5,273	2,655	3,008	3,685	5,239	125,599
1975	Thou.	7,487	10,657	14,719	16,960	17,568	16,140	12,734	7,329	3,590	3,457	4,147	6,370	121,158
1976	Thou.	8,719	12,278	16,566	17,770	18,367	17,748	13,474						
All breeds														
1974	Thou.	10,896	13,987	19,440	20,650	20,068	17,099	12,954	6,052	3,170	4,193	4,987	6,523	140,019
1975	Thou.	8,689	12,024	16,125	18,617	19,094	17,540	14,258	8,648	4,337	4,465	5,391	7,888	137,076
1976	Thou.	10,513	13,716	18,475	19,748	20,171	19,572	15,354						

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 18–Selected poultry and egg statistics*–Continued

Item	Data in–	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 66.–Cold storage holdings of shell and frozen eggs, first of month														
All frozen eggs														
1974	Mil. lb.	43.2	37.7	35.7	39.4	43.6	49.6	55.6	59.1	63.4	65.6	64.7	60.1	
1975	Mil. lb.	54.2	52.1	51.0	46.7	42.8	44.7	47.8	52.1	51.9	51.0	46.6	42.2	
1976	Mil. lb.	36.3	31.7	28.6	29.3	29.4	29.1	30.3	30.5					
Shell eggs														
1974	1,000 cs.	34	23	42	59	66	86	89	95	78	70	73	52	
1975	1,000 cs.	36	32	48	32	26	68	82	84	80	72	55	40	
1976	1,000 cs.	22	13	21	26	26	22	25	60					
Shell equivalent of all eggs														
1974	1,000 cs.	1,128	978	946	1,056	1,169	1,341	1,496	1,591	1,683	1,730	1,711	1,574	
1975	1,000 cs.	1,408	1,350	1,340	1,214	1,110	1,200	1,291	1,402	1,393	1,364	1,235	1,108	
1976	1,000 cs.	940	817	747	767	771	759	792	833					
Tables 68-69.–Cold storage holdings of poultry, first of the month														
Total frozen														
Turkey														
1974	Mil. lb.	281.0	274.0	250.5	235.9	225.0	227.4	265.8	335.8	431.8	528.7	554.6	372.0	
1975	Mil. lb.	275.0	267.1	239.9	207.3	180.2	162.7	193.2	248.6	328.3	409.8	472.4	286.2	
1976	Mil. lb.	195.2	187.1	159.9	140.0	114.5	120.5		252.0					
Chicken														
Hens														
1974	Mil. lb.	47.2	43.9	40.4	44.4	46.5	53.1	57.6	62.7	64.8	61.3	60.0	56.1	
1975	Mil. lb.	54.0	55.7	55.6	56.6	59.1	57.1	56.9	54.3	52.9	49.1	44.7	41.6	
1976	Mil. lb.	39.2	34.7	31.4	29.4	32.3	30.1	34.3	39.0					
Broilers, fryers and roasters														
1974	Mil. lb.	33.4	32.5	32.6	34.6	33.8	37.5	36.6	34.3	34.2	35.4	36.3	37.0	
1975	Mil. lb.	37.2	31.5	32.9	28.0	27.8	24.1	22.6	21.7	22.5	22.7	21.9	21.5	
1976	Mil. lb.	22.3	20.2	19.4	18.9	19.0	17.4	20.0	24.4					
Tables 70-71.–Exports of fresh or frozen poultry														
Broilers														
1974	Thou. lb.	11,159	9,672	13,610	9,511	8,106	8,014	13,272	8,890	8,179	8,650	7,866	8,413	115,340
1975	Thou. lb.	10,268	9,841	9,903	11,620	12,595	11,858	10,851	11,931	10,615	13,046	11,483	13,720	137,731
1976	Thou. lb.	16,263	12,881	16,254	17,226	23,950	24,940							
Turkeys														
1974	Thou. lb.	4,386	3,477	4,732	2,195	2,770	3,574	2,897	2,788	1,924	4,108	3,664	3,078	39,594
1975	Thou. lb.	1,384	2,551	2,979	2,952	2,851	3,807	4,389	4,023	5,293	7,139	5,368	4,507	47,244
1976	Thou. lb.	5,135	5,993	7,719	3,958	3,864	6,267							
Tables 72-75.–USDA contracts to purchase chicken, and turkey														
Young chickens, ready-to-cook wt.														
1974	Mil. lb.	9.3	8.7	---	---	---	---	1.9	3.5	3.0	6.5	7.1	7.9	47.9
1975	Mil. lb.	3.8	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	7.3	6.8	7.0	5.2	30.0
1976	Mil. lb.	7.6	7.3	8.4	---	---	---	---						
Canned boned chicken														
1974	Doz. cans	193.8	193.8	---	---	---	---	91.8	234.6	224.4	163.2	13.6	---	1,115.1
1975	Doz. cans	---	---	---	---	---	105.4	---	---	57.8	88.4	105.4	336.6	693.5
1976	Doz. cans	231.2	133.5	112.2	---	---	---	---						
Canned boney turkey														
1974	Doz. cans	95.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	95.2
1975	Doz. cans	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1976	Doz. cans	---	---	---	---	---	---	---						
Turkey, ready-to-cook wt.														
1974	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---	9.3	3.1	15.8	9.5	3.7	9.8	51.4
1975	Mil. lb.	2.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.1	6.9	10.4	---	---	21.6
1976	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---						

[1] Chicken and turkey meat, excludes slaughter on farms. [2] Excludes farm slaughter, lard and rendered pork fat. [3] Price reported as a price at mid-month. [4] Reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics. Prices are collected on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the week that includes the first Tuesday of the month. [5] Includes price for Grade AA eggs in Anchorage, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, and Seattle, and Grade AA and ungraded eggs in some small cities. [6] Weighted average price to volume buyers for Consumer Grade A white eggs in cartons delivered to store door. [7] Prices paid by first receivers for cartoned Grade A eggs delivered FOB Midwestern cities. Prior to January 1974, reported as average price paid delivered to Chicago, loose, white, minimum 80 percent A. [8] Truckiot sales of U.S. Grade A and plant grade ready-to-cook, ice-packed broiler-fryers. [9] Computed by weighting the city averages by their metropolitan area populations. The 9 cities are: Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and San Francisco. [10] Pounds of broiler grower equal in value to 1 lb. of broiler liveweight. [11] Pounds of turkey grower equal in value to 1 lb. of turkey liveweight. [12] Pounds of laying feed equal in value to 1 dozen eggs. [13] Placements reported by leading breeders. [14] Sum of domestic placements 7-14 months previous.

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OUTLOOK CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 15-18

The 1977 National Agricultural Outlook Conference will be held in Washington, D.C. at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Jefferson Auditorium November 15-18. The Conference, sponsored by USDA's Economic Research, Agricultural Research and Extension Services, will feature presentations and panel discussions by leading authorities in agriculture and business on commodities and family living concerns. A session will be devoted to the outlook for poultry and eggs on the afternoon of November 17, 1976.